

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXII.—NEW SERIES, No. 894.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17, 1862.

PRICE, with Supplement { UNSTAMPED... 5d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

TONBRIDGE CHAPEL, EUSTON-ROAD.

A COURSE of SUNDAY EVENING LECTURES on the PARABLES of OUR LORD will be DELIVERED during the Winter Months at the above Chapel, by the Rev. J. R. KILSBY JONES.

- Dec. 21.—"Publicans and Pharisees"—That disparaging comparisons are drawn in consequence of erecting a false standard.
"28.—That the non-recognition of the standard of the Bible constitutes man a sinner, and that as such nothing but humility becomes him.
Service commences at half-past six o'clock.

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The Church hitherto worshipping in Pembury-grove Chapel, Lower Clapton, finding their present building both unsuitable in character and locality, and inadequate in accommodation, have resolved to erect a new Edifice, capable of accommodating One Thousand persons, with School-rooms attached for Six Hundred Children. A most eligible Freehold Site, open to five public roads, has been secured. Plans have been obtained, the estimated cost of executing which is 6,500l. Subscriptions have been received or promised, chiefly by the present congregation, amounting to more than 2,000l. The London Congregational Chapel-Building Society have, in addition to this, voted a grant of 300l., and a loan of 700l. The present chapel will be sold in aid of the Building Fund. A fair prospect of success is thus opened. The New Church will be surrounded by a large and increasing population, for which there is no other religious accommodation in the immediate locality. The whole case is familiarly known to all neighbouring Ministers and Churches, to whom reference can be made. And an earnest appeal is now made to the Christian Public to aid in this effort to meet the ever-increasing necessities of this great metropolis. The Committee are making arrangements for laying the Foundation-stone early in the ensuing Spring.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received by the Rev. Frank Boden, pastor, 8, Laura-place, Lower Clapton; Mr. F. Crow, secretary, 1, Church-street, Hackney; and Mr. H. R. Williams, 15, Amhurst-road, Hackney Downs, or may be paid to the account of the Trustees of the Building Fund at Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., 65, Lombard-street, E.C.

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Grant	300 0 0
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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Eccliaistical Affairs.

SENTENCE ON THE ESSAYISTS.

ON Monday last, in the Arches Court, Dr. Lushington pronounced judgment in the suits of the Bishop of Salisbury *v.* the Rev. Dr. Rowland Williams, and of Fendall *v.* Wilson. The first judgment, it will be remembered, related to the admissibility of the several articles of accusation exhibited against the defendants, some of which were rejected, some ordered to be reformed, and some admitted. But the judge, in directing what should be the judicial shape of the question to be argued before him, and upon which he would give the decision of the court, set forth in the most elaborate manner the principles by which he should be guided, and the bearing they would have upon the position of the defendants. The arguments of the advocates, on Monday last, therefore, scarcely touched the merits of either case, but were restricted almost exclusively to the nature and extent of the punishment to be awarded.

The heretical opinions charged upon Dr. Rowland Williams were three. He was accused of having, in his celebrated Review of Chevalier Bunsen's works, impugned the doctrine of the Church of England in regard to, first, inspiration; secondly, the atonement; and thirdly, justification by faith. The Queen's Advocate, Dr. Phillimore, on behalf of the Bishop of Salisbury, prayed that Dr. Williams might be suspended until he had made retraction. Mr. Fitzjames Stephen, on the part of the defendant, made light of the first offence, and said that the two latter consisted only in "want of caution," "that Dr. Williams did not agree in the opinions expressed in the passages" (quotations from Bunsen) "relating to them, and was ready to disavow the opinions, or withdraw the passages in which they were contained." The Court, however, "could not take into account a verbal retraction," "pronounced the articles of accusation proven," gave sentence of "suspension *ab officio et beneficio* for the term of ONE YEAR," and condemned the defendant in costs. The judgment in the suit of Fendall *v.* Wilson was precisely the same, and, in both cases, notice of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was given in Court.

Now, bearing in mind that the Civil Court may essentially modify or even reverse the decision of the Ecclesiastical Court, we are nevertheless warranted in regarding this judgment as the deliberate judgment of the Church of England, expressed through her own tribunal, on the offence which Dr. Rowland Williams has been proved to have committed. What is that offence? He has publicly contravened by his teaching three of those Articles of Religion which as a clergyman he had solemnly undertaken to uphold. Nor can it be pretended that those Articles are of

secondary importance. On the contrary, they embody religious truths which are fundamental to the system of faith of which the Established Church was constituted at the Reformation the organised spiritual guardian and teacher. Whether those articles be or be not proveable by Scripture, we are not called upon to give any present opinion. Certain it is, however, that they cannot be successfully impugned without overturning the whole doctrinal structure which the Church of England declares to represent the Divine mind and will with regard to the whole duty of man. This structure Dr. Williams has used his learning, his abilities, and his position as a clergyman to subvert—and for this offence the Court sentences him to suspension for the term of one year. We do not forget that both the defendants were condemned in costs, which will, no doubt, be extremely heavy, but which will probably be forthcoming from the pockets of admiring friends, and, we presume that, in most instances, a sentence of suspension for a year may be expected to deter as effectually from any repetition of the offence as suspension without limit. But, looking at the Court as bound to protect the members of the Church from heretical teaching, and at the magnitude of the errors to be punished, we must say that the sentence pronounced by Dr. Lushington strikes us as singularly inadequate to the offence, though recommended by the consideration that it can hardly be interpreted as persecution for opinion's sake. On the whole, perhaps, expediency prevailed upon the judge to be as lenient as possible. He may have reasonably concluded that a heavier punishment would but have awakened public sympathy. He has evidently been unwilling to exalt the delinquents into martyrs. But the effect is that twelve months hence, these clergymen who have done their best to undermine the faith of their own Church, may, without any retraction of what they have written, resume their clerical functions and emoluments; and write, and speak, and teach, as the organs of that Church, with undiminished clerical authority.

We are most reluctant, in a case of such grave importance, to import into our consideration of it any reflections which imply distrust of the *bona fides* of any of the parties in the suit, or the administrators of the law as applicable to it. But the more unreservedly we may acquit persons, the more severely must we condemn the ecclesiastical system, which not merely admits of, but conduces, to such a cluster of anomalies. Here, for instance, are clergymen, who having openly, before man and God, engaged to teach certain Articles of Religion, so far violate their engagement as to labour to undermine belief in the most important of them—of those which must be taken as a key to the rest. Now, under a natural and healthy state of things, the remedy for this evil would be prompt, sure, and effectual. The Church which had received the ostensible services of these men would cut them off from fellowship, and the congregations to whom they had ministered would withdraw from their ministerial teaching, and leave them to be sustained by those, if any, who accept as trustworthy their views of Divine revelation. But, where law is recognised as the guardian of orthodoxy, every method of procedure is encompassed with difficulties and dangers, and all parties, albeit animated by the best of motives, may, as in the present instance, be stranded on the most ridiculous and yet lamentable results.

A Church established by law must, as it seems to us, legally set forth its Articles of Religion and formularies of devotion, which, in the last resort, must be recognised as its only authorised standard of orthodoxy. The authority of "God's Word written" is thus superseded. The ministers of that Church must, in terms more or less stringent, profess their hearty acceptance of this humanly-framed rule of faith. The right and duty of free inquiry is thus renounced. In any question of practical departure from this standard, the canons by which the clergy must be judged

must be the ordinary canons of interpretation usually employed in our law courts, and the decision must be technical rather than substantial. In fact, the Church Courts must use the church standards as the only cognisable test of orthodoxy or heterodoxy, and, hence, may be compelled to condemn what is in itself estimable, while refusing even to look at the most alarming breaches of trust. So it has been in the present suit. It has come out that clergymen may, without being guilty of any cognisable ecclesiastical offence, fritter away the Bible—but that, even in the service of truth, they must not touch with adverse criticism a single expression found in the legal Articles of Religion, or in the Book of Common Prayer to which they are appended. The utterances for which Dr. Williams cannot be censured by the Church, are far more heretical than any for which he has been condemned. The whole apparatus of trial is inappropriate. It is a machinery of discipline which can enforce discipline in some cases only, and with great difficulty even in them. And thus it has happened that, after litigation extending over more than twelve months, and in a case of offence which has been publicly reprobated by the whole Bench of Bishops, and by one, if not by both, Houses of Convocation, the upshot of this legal attempt to condemn the "Essays and Reviews," gives a chartered license to scepticism within certain bounds, and where those bounds have been transgressed, awards a punishment which, in public estimation, will be regarded as merely nominal.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

Last Friday a ceremony was performed in Canterbury Cathedral which the people of England have not had an opportunity of witnessing for nearly a hundred and fifty years. The ceremony is called the ENTHRONISATION of the Archbishop. The daily papers will have given the reader the particulars of this display. The reporters of these journals seem to have enjoyed the scene before them,—as they have described it,—much in the same manner as they enjoyed and described Mr. Charles Kean's Shakesperian and Byronic revivals. It would be cynical to criticise such displays too minutely. Ceremony will, we suppose, always have place in Christian worship. It has great attraction to the multitude, and for that reason was patronised when Christianity began to rival Paganism. Very many find it, no doubt, a relief from what would otherwise be an irksome duty. To other minds, of an æsthetic character, it supplies, or is said to supply, an expression of the religious sentiment which they find to be peculiarly elevating. How easily, in such a case, can the religious feelings be stimulated into action! The materials lie, not in the unseen action of spirit upon spirit, but in the imagination of the posture-master and the shop of the manufacturer of clerical robes. Of late years the archbishops have avoided this ceremony. We can imagine that to a Howley and a Sumner there must have appeared to be something very hollow in it, and that it would have been, in the last degree, distasteful to them. The ceremony represents the completion of the legal authority of the Archbishop—an authority which most Christian pastors would scarcely care to intrude upon public notice. It is a publication, in lofty style, that the Church is a Law Church, resting, as the Archbishop's authority does, after this ceremony, not upon its moral power, or its superior spiritual character, but upon Parliamentary enactments, and the decisions of the lay judges. Whether it was a little ecclesiastical weakness which induced Dr. Longley to receive in his own person, the homage of the inferior clergy of his diocese, we cannot say, but the previous history of the Archbishop has indicated that he is not superior to upholstery attractions. He it was who, as Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, first brought the proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commission into scandalous disrepute, by spending 400*l.* upon paper-hangings for his palace at Stapleton, 400*l.* on his flower-garden, erecting a "new four-stalled stable," &c., &c. Is it the same love of display which has revived the enthronisation ceremony? From Archbishop to Dean is not a very long leap. We remember reading, some time ago, of a respectable

old gentleman, who was a very slow but a very systematic reader of newspapers. The result was that he could not keep up with the events of the day. It was, if our memory serves us correctly, about the year 1825, that he read in the *Times* of the Battle of Waterloo, and thereupon exclaimed, "Dear me! Napoleon's defeated." The *Saturday Review*, in similar manner, has just made the discovery that Deans are rather useless persons. Commenting upon Lord Palmerston's recent appointments to the Exeter and Wells deaneries, this journal inquires whether these appointments "do not imply a concealed belief that there might just as well be no dean at all?" "Such a belief," the *Saturday* goes on to say, "is, in truth, implied in nearly all Decanal appointments, good and bad. The theory is, that a dean has nothing to do, that the office requires no sort of qualification, and that one man will make as good a dean as another. The office, combining a fair income, a certain amount of dignity, and little or no work, will seem, to an unconscientious Minister, exactly the place for a kinsman or partisan whom it would be hardly decent to thrust into a bishopric. To a conscientious Minister it will seem exactly the place for a clergyman who has distinguished himself in some way or other, to whom it is a reward of past services, a sort of comfortable cushion for a man wishing to retire from more active duties. The one view is creditable, the other is discreditable; one makes the better deans, the other the worse; but both alike go on the principle that the Decanal office is a perfect sinecure, that the office has no duties, and needs no qualifications." This discovery was made some thirty years ago by the general public, and not less than ten years ago by many members of the Cathedral Commission. The office of Dean, however, still exists, and twenty-eight gentlemen, receiving each from 1,000*l.* to 2,000*l.* a year for doing nothing, still divide a large portion of the Cathedral revenues between them. Meantime, the curate, like the Italian in Addison's celebrated *Letter*,

Starves, in the midst of Nature's beauty curst,
And in the loaded vineyard dies for thirst.

The prosecution in the "Essays and Reviews" trial has come to a termination of an unexpected character. Remembering the excitement occasioned by the publication of this work; the importance attached to it by the whole Bench of Bishops, and the "danger" in which it was said to have placed the Church, the public expected something more than a third of the punishment which was pronounced on Archbishop Denison. The result of his three years' prosecution is a suspension for twelve months, and even this sentence is appealed from! Supposing, after another protracted trial before the Privy Council, that this sentence is confirmed, Dr. Williams will, at the end of twelve months, be reinstated in his benefice without having retracted one of the opinions he has published. What will the Evangelical party say to this? And what will Dissenters say? Is Dr. Williams to go on assailing the Bible, and at the same time drawing his income from their pockets? All this, too, in a Church constituted under Acts of Parliament for ensuring uniformity of belief and worship! We regret to notice, in the defence of Dr. Williams on Monday, the attempt to show that he has not adopted Bansen's statements repeated. Dr. Williams is not to be complimented on his honesty when he allows this defence to be set up, he having, in a certain publication which his prosecutors seem to have overlooked, taken upon himself a full responsibility for Bansen's opinions. This publication is before us while we write, and it offers a strange commentary on Dr. Deane's assertions.

Most of our readers will regret to have noticed, during the past week, another indication that the charity of the nation is being prostituted to sectarian purposes. A clergyman of Wigan has written to Sir J. K. Shuttleworth to inquire whether the sewing-schools established for the relief of the destitute workwomen had not better be of a denominational character? Sir James, in a characteristic letter, replies that he has no preference for either organisation, and then expresses his opinion that in Wigan, &c., &c., denominational schools are best. Thereupon, the Wigan Relief Committee is moved to change the existing system to a denominational one, but, happily, the proposition met with little more than clerical support, and was defeated by thirty-seven votes to four. The *Times* has rightly rebuked this attempt. "Must there," says our contemporary, "be denominational sewing, and is no other possible? Are the factories themselves denominational? We never heard that the millowners enforced particular dogmas or observances on their operatives, though, of course, they have their own opinions and ways. Surely, there can be no real difficulty in assembling a few hundred girls together in a sewing-school, even if they are not all exactly agreed upon Transubstantiation, the authority of the Pope, the necessity of Bishops, or the proper age for baptism. The Church of England may surely consider itself strong enough on its own grounds not to require the exclusion of schismatical or rebellious elements in the comparatively mild form of a half-starved seamstress." Do Church clergymen think that they can recover their lost ground in the manufacturing districts by this method?

The *Guardian* has an article on "Church-rate Prospects." It considers them, on the whole, hopeful to the Church; is of opinion that the Liberation Society sees cause for alarm in Mr. Disraeli's recent speech, and acquaints the *Nonconformist* ("not being, doubtless, a novel-reader") that "he is mistaken in

assuming that the subject is altogether new to Mr. Mr. Disraeli's mind." Considering that the official organ of the Liberation Society has expressed its great gratification at Mr. Disraeli's speech, and especially at the fact that he has taken up Church defence, and considering that in our columns a few years ago were first published some very curious extracts from Mr. Disraeli's novels, in which that versatile gentleman attacked all the State Churches in language which we should not dare to use, we are afraid we cannot compliment our contemporary on the accuracy of his intelligence on this subject.

CONFERENCE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY IN YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday last, a conference of the West Riding friends of the Liberation Society was held in St. George's Hall, Bradford. The attendance was very good, and considerably larger than had been anticipated. The principal towns and villages in West Yorkshire were represented, and altogether nearly 200 gentlemen were present. The conference was convened by a circular, signed by the leading Nonconformists of the district. The local arrangements were made by the Bradford Committee, and proved very effective. The society's treasurer (Mr. Edwards), Mr. E. Miall, and Mr. Carvell Williams, were present as a deputation from the Central Committee.

Shortly before eleven o'clock, the Mayor of Halifax, John Crossley, Esq., was called to the chair, and the Rev. J. H. Ryland, of Bradford, and the Rev. W. Roberts, of Halifax, were appointed secretaries to the conference.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said it had been alleged by Episcopalians that the Bicentenary movement had been a failure, and certainly, if the wide diffusion of information, which was unpalatable to those who said so, made it a failure, and the raising of large sums of money for voluntary purposes, then undoubtedly it had been a failure. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the Liberation Society acted wisely in following up that movement by improving their machinery and consolidating their forces. The society had already done a great deal at a very small cost, and it had been truly said that no organisation had been so efficient, having regard to its pecuniary resources. (Hear.) Having stated how the proceedings were to be conducted, he concluded by calling on

Mr. MIALL to read a paper on "The Present Position of the Anti-State-Church Question." It described the exact nature of the question at issue, and the early efforts of the Liberation Society in exciting interest in that question, and afterwards its endeavours to influence national legislation. Its great success had alarmed the supporters of Church Establishments, who were now brought front to front with the whole design of the society. Henceforth, all the political and social power of the Church of England was to be wielded in bar of the most moderate and reasonable claims of all beyond its pale; and the writer quoted Episcopalian writers to show what is the spirit in which Dissent is henceforth to be treated, and what was the means to be used to make the Church of England everywhere dominant. This would necessitate a great conflict, out of which political partisans were already trying to get capital, and the friends of Voluntaryism must therefore prepare themselves to put forth that latent power which they possessed in so great a degree. They were not absolutely, but only relatively, weaker than before. The Liberation Society was never better appreciated by Dissenters, who had been stirred up by the Bicentenary agitation to take a new interest in the question at issue. The paper concluded by pointing out the duty devolving on the society's friends, and the great encouragements held out to them to discharge it with fidelity and earnestness. The paper was listened to with the greatest attention, and was frequently applauded.

The Rev. Dr. ACWORTH, of Rawdon College, then moved:—

That, looking to the altered position of the Established Churches of these realms, consequent on their inability to meet the spiritual wants of an increasing population, and on the extent to which those wants have been supplied by the unestablished religious communities, and having regard to the fact, that the tendency of recent legislation has been uniformly in the direction of religious equality, this conference has witnessed, without any surprise, the present alarm of the supporters of State-Churchism, and their combined efforts to prolong its existence. That, recognising the approach of an inevitable struggle, which will determine the future relationship of the State to religious bodies, the conference deems it to be the bounden duty of the friends of voluntaryism to prepare themselves for such united, well-directed, and self-denying exertion as will create an earnest public opinion in favour of their views, will direct that opinion into right channels, and will ultimately exercise a decisive influence on national legislation.

He thought the paper just read showed in what good hands the society was. (Hear, hear.) As for the coming struggle, let it come. (Loud cheers.) That assembly showed what already had been the effect of resistance now offered to them. They had nothing to apprehend if they were united, wise, and earnest.

The Rev. J. B. PATON, of Sheffield, seconded the motion in an earnest address. He thought their principles had received a wonderful development during the last few years; and he referred to Wales, to Scotland, and to Ireland, in proof of the statement. Liberal thinkers in England were increasingly with them; and on the continent of Europe some of the most philosophic minds had enunciated their

principles with great clearness and power. The Establishment had everything to lose from enquiry and excitement. Nevertheless, they must gird themselves for a conflict the like of which had not been witnessed in England for many a year.

The Rev. G. W. CONDER, of Leeds, said the time had come when there must be action on the part of all their churches, who would come to see that State-Churchism hindered the progress of the Gospel. He especially urged action in the large towns. Some conversation then ensued—carried on by the Rev. J. H. Ryland, Mr. Miall, Mr. Kenion, Dr. Mason, Rev. W. Roberts, Mr. Whitehead, Rev. S. Green, and the chairman—as to the best mode of advancing the society's principles in the House of Commons. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

The Rev. H. DOWSON, of Bradford, proceeded to read a Paper on "The Liberation Society in the West Riding." It commenced by referring to the part played by Yorkshire in former political struggles, and to the strength of Nonconformity in the district. He then analysed the subscription-list, to show what it was doing for the society, and the room there was for improvement. The working of the Church Institutes in the county was described, and several practical suggestions were offered, with a view to increased local action.

At the close of this paper, which excited great interest, there was a short adjournment for lunch, after which

Mr. WADE, of Leeds, proposed:—

That, considering the numerical strength of Nonconformity in the West Riding, and the influence which the constituency is capable of exercising on the political action of the country, and considering also the activity now displayed by the upholders of Church Establishments within the district, this conference is of opinion that a special local effort in aid of the movement of the Liberation Society is called for by the circumstances of the times, and would prove highly conducive to its efficiency and power.

He adverted to the discussion on the previous resolution, relative to the representation of their principles in the House of Commons, and urged that the diffusion of information should be their great aim.

The Rev. R. L. CARPENTER, of Halifax, seconded the motion, and, in a practical speech, insisted on the necessity for educating the people. Facts were the great things to do their work, for out of the facts came the theories.

The Rev. J. P. CHOWN, of Bradford, supported the motion, and urged that the Dissenters of each town should consult as to the best means of working in their own locality.

The Rev. J. H. RYLAND said they must not follow the example set by some who differed from them, in regard to exclusiveness.

The resolution having been carried,

Alderman KENTON moved the next, which enumerated the duties to be discharged by local committees and correspondents. He said this principle required to be popularly taught on the week days as well as on Sundays. There must also be self-denial on the part of the more intelligent among them, and especially among the laity, that they might become teachers of others. Let Dissenters also become freeholders when they could, and get on to the borough registers, and, above all, let them obtain a good leader in Parliament. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. J. HANSON, of Huddersfield, in seconding the resolution, referred to the conduct of some of the Established clergy in practically withdrawing from mechanics' institutes, and in insinuating their views in young men's societies' lectures.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS supported the motion in a practical speech, in which he described how the society's work might be carried on locally, and what assistance could be obtained from head-quarters. He advised that young men should be invited to discuss the matter in discussion classes.

The CHAIRMAN was obliged to leave at this stage of the proceedings, but, before doing so, he expressed his great gratification at having been present, and urged that the subscription-list in the West Riding should be doubled. He also urged that the conference should be followed up by practical measures. The chairman was heartily thanked and loudly cheered on leaving, and his place was taken by Dr. Acworth.

Mr. W. GLYDE, of Saltaire, then moved:—

That as the pecuniary resources placed at the society's disposal in the earlier years of its existence are altogether inadequate to sustain enlarged and increasingly important operations, the conference is of opinion that an augmentation of the society's income is absolutely needful, and that to promote that object the amount of contributions from the West Riding should be largely increased during the present financial year.

He said that increased funds would be absolutely necessary if the valuable suggestions of Mr. Williams were to be carried out.

Mr. A. ILLINGWORTH seconded the proposal. He thought Dissenters had done well in the House of Commons, but now they must look more to the country. (Hear.) A large outlay would be required to carry on the work of instruction, and the sooner it was provided for the better. He should double his subscription forthwith, and he hoped others would do the same, for they would certainly have their reward. (Cheers.)

Mr. EDWARDS, the treasurer, also spoke to the subject of finance. He ventured to think that the West Riding should raise a thousand a year as its share of the society's income, and described the work for which increased funds were needed. Mr. Ackroyd had said that the battle of the Church must be fought in the manufacturing districts, and there must be as much determination on the one side as the other. If the West Riding did its duty the moral effect would be great. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. R. BRUCE, of Huddersfield, urged the multiplication of half-guinea subscribers, who were

entitled to the *Liberator*, the circulation of which would do great service.

The Rev. W. Thomas, of Leeds, the Rev. J. Compston, of Barnsley, and the Rev. H. J. Morgan, of Leeds, followed, and suggested that the multiplication of small subscriptions was desirable, especially in the case of working men. It was also suggested that the doubling of the sum raised in the West Riding should be set before them as a definite object. The resolution was then adopted.

The Rev. Dr. FRASER, of Airedale College, and the Rev. J. G. MIALI, next proposed the appointment of a West Riding Committee to give effect to the resolutions of the Conference, such committee to report to another Conference.

The Rev. W. HEWGILL, of Warley, proposed a vote of thanks to the deputation, and to the writers of the two papers. He recommended the formation of young men's branches of the society. He also proposed that facilities for supplying books should be provided.

Mr. WOODHEAD, of Huddersfield, seconded the vote, which was carried and acknowledged by

Mr. E. MIALI, who said that few things could be more encouraging to the society's executive than such a conference. He was convinced that it would lead to great things, and if the West Riding did its duty it would arm the society with new power. A gathering like that in every part of the kingdom would soon put a new face on things. (Hear.)

After letters from the Rev. Eustace Conder and others, expressing regret at their absence, had been read, the Rev. J. GREEN, of Hebden-bridge, proposed, and the Rev. G. C. CATTERALL, of Wakefield, seconded, a motion, thanking the local committee and friends for their arrangements and hospitality, which vote was responded to by the Rev. J. H. RYLAND.

Thanks were also voted to Dr. Acworth, and the conference separated at five, after sitting for six hours; the members proceeding to dine together at the George Hotel.

THE PUBLIC MEETING

Was held in the evening in St. George's-hall, when there was a large attendance; the platform being crowded with the members of this Conference.

Alderman BROWN presided, and said he trusted that that day's Conference would give an impulse to the society's cause in every part of the Riding.

Dr. ACWORTH proposed the first resolution, which referred to recent events in the Establishment. He said that if he were a member of the Established Church just now he should judge from its state of internal disorder that it was on the eve of falling to pieces. It had been said some time ago that the Church was going to do its own work and reform itself. If the Church was doing that now, it was doing it in a most awkward style. Dissenters were fully prepared to do honour to the manifestations of benevolence put forth by some members of the Church. To those who were engaged in building churches and schools he would say, God speed! These were the very Churchmen who felt the galling effects of the chain which bound them to the State more than any others. When these men had built their churches, they found themselves tied hand and foot. They could not appoint their own ministers, and were, indeed, trammelled on every side. He felt sure that if these men continued these voluntary efforts they would soon find themselves where the Dissenters were—outside the pale of the Church. The voluntary principle would be sure soon to snap the link which bound them to the Establishment. (Applause.)

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS, who followed, did not exaggerate, when he said, that notwithstanding all the boasted triumphs of the Establishment, there was nowhere to be found a Church in so disturbed a state, if they excepted the Church of Rome, which was suffering from exactly the same fear as the Episcopal Church, viz., fear lest it should suffer a loss of temporal power. (Hear.) It was admitted that deterioration was going on in the clerical body; that while churches were being multiplied, the number of the clergy was diminishing. While the population was five times greater now than at the time of the Reformation, the number of the clergy was positively less, and the maintenance provided for them was less, and there was no prospect that it would be increased. But there was a decrease not only in the quantity but in the quality of the clergy. The proportion of those entering holy orders with a university degree over those who had no degree, was not nearly so great now as it used to be. The Church, therefore, would be in a far different position in fifty years from the present time. This paucity and deterioration of the clergy might, he thought, unquestionably be traced to the influence of the union of the Church with the State. The majority of the clergy were poor, while the few were enriched, and large revenues were absolutely wasted. The existing system of patronage was deeply injurious, as was also the bondage to which the clergy were exposed. Churchmen, who used to sneer at voluntarism, were now trying to combine free-will offerings with State endowments and exactions, but it would be found that the junction would not long be practicable. He quoted a statement of the Bishop of Tasmania to the effect that in his diocese the Episcopalians did not constitute an Established Church. They were one of the sects, and as such would crave no supremacy for the Episcopalian Church, but such as she could claim over the hearts of her people. (Applause.) The Church should be placed on the same footing in England. That was the principle that Dissenters inculcated and the carrying out of that principle would be great boon to the Church of England. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. R. BRUGH, of Huddersfield, proposed a resolution bidding the friends of voluntarism to prepare for the coming struggle. He, for one, was not surprised at the activity or alarm which was manifesting itself among their friends of the Church. It showed that they had made their power felt: and they could find no fault with this activity or alarm. They had nothing to fear in such a controversy, for, he believed, they had right, Scripture, and common sense on their side. Some of the right reverend prelates had cautioned Churchmen engaged in this controversy against using irritating language, and he really thought such a caution was very necessary. Thus the Bishop of Ripon had been reported, in Huddersfield, to have said that Dissent was an unmitigated evil. A friend wrote to him to ascertain the truth of this, and he wrote back, denying that he had ever used such an expression, that he had ever thought or ever said such a thing. But he wrote also, that in his opinion, Dissent had been overruled for good. Now, that was an irritating thing. It was as much as to say, Dissent was not an unmitigated evil,—it was a mitigated one. Their present position reminded him of that of the Israelites when they stood on the borders of the promised land. Their spies, as his hearers would remember, had returned, and reported that it was a beautiful land, but that giants and the sons of Anak inhabited it. Some of them, when they heard this, were for going forward; others wanted to select a captain, and go back to Egypt. They (the Dissenters) stood on the borders of the promised land. Would they go up? or would they go back again? He said, let them go up. And if they wanted to go back, he trusted they would not be able to find a captain who would lead them in that backward course. Let them go up, even if they were defeated. They would, doubtless, have to suffer much before they effected their purpose; but ultimately, through faith and steadfastness, they would, he trusted, throw down the barriers that stood between them and their brethren of the Church, and all be of one heart and of one mind. (Loud applause.)

Mr. E. MIALI was the next speaker. Alluding to charges made against the Liberation Society, he said:—

I confess myself a member of that society. I bow to all the reproaches that have been levelled against it. I don't think it at all necessary to answer them; some of them are so absurd, some of them so childish, and some of them so mendacious, that I should be sorry to spend your time and mine in endeavouring to refute them. Now permit me just to say what it is that we mean by equality. The sole objection that we have to an Established Church is this: that it will not, it does not—I will not say cannot, for I don't believe it—but it does not—stand on its own merits. The position of those who bring against us the heaviest charges of spoliation and robbery is this: they say to us, "We give you every opportunity to preach as you like, pray as you like, and make such exertions as are according to the dictates of your conscience as to the evangelisation of the world; but pay our minister." (Laughter and cheers.) Now that is the real position in which they place us. They say they cannot be expected to stoop to the degradation of maintaining their own religion themselves. They won't have our support voluntarily, but they must have it by compulsion. All men in this realm must pay for their religion. It is the first principle of the British Constitution. (Laughter.) Now this lies at the bottom of all our contests with Churchmen.

After a lengthened reference to the Church-property question, to show the absurdity of the charge of robbery made against the society, the speaker said:—

I very much wish that this question should be settled without a struggle. The most natural way would be for the Church laity to awaken to a sense of the degradation of their position. Would to God that we could get at the hearts of the laity of the Church so as to convince them of the unfair, unmanly, I might almost say dishonest, position in which they place themselves. They would despise themselves for the submission if they submitted to all that is endured by Dissenters. They make us pay Church-rates, not because they want money—for they are the richest Church in the country—but because they want to put on us the badge of inferiority. Here they are in our manufactories, tinging young men with principles calculated to enslave this empire, and put it under the feet of an ascendant priesthood. I wonder that the whole soul of an Englishman does not recoil from such proceedings. With a free press and liberty of speech, we hope to put an end to this state of things. I am sure that ours is not the natural position of an intelligent community. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that men ought not to be divided in working for benevolent and Christian objects, merely by the distinctions which at present under them. If we should be able to accomplish our aim, and stand on a ground of equality with all other Christians, if this were the case, I do believe there would be an entirely different and far more loveable aspect on society. We should not be driven to ecclesiastical antagonism, and crying out that the Church was in danger; but our only enemies then would be vice and sin, and our only rivalry would be as to who should do most to extend the glory of God the Father. (Loud applause.)

Mr. BENJAMIN HARRISON moved the next resolution, which expressed great satisfaction at the holding of the conference. They had fought against monopolies of all sorts, and now they had come to one of the oldest monopolies, one of the last vestiges of monopoly. If they passed the resolution, they must make up their minds to vigorous action. They had never had a society which was so well adapted to secure its ends as the Liberation Society; they had never had a society with such first-rate men at its head. And it was necessary that they should have such men, for the monopoly they were fighting was the monster and master monopoly of all that ever existed.

Mr. A. ILLINGWORTH, who seconded the motion, said the conference had been a great success. The society was depending on the West Riding to set the

rest of the country a good example, and he was sure the West Riding would do itself credit.

Mr. EDWARDS then proposed, and Mr. MIALI seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, who said, Bradford should set a good example in the way of augmenting the funds of the society. All who were present should at once resolve at least to double their subscriptions to the society next year. (Loud applause.)

In speaking of the morning conference the *Bradford Review* says:—

In dealing with the various questions brought before the conference in the papers and resolutions, marked unanimity and earnestness pervaded all the transactions. The attendance was good, and the spirit of the assembly was that of men who felt they were engaged in the promotion of a great work, and who were determined to persevere in it. The conference was in every respect eminently successful. We anticipate as the results of this conference, a more vigorous and extended action of the Liberation Society in West Yorkshire. The conference seemed fully convinced that the circumstances of the times called for this increased activity.

The above meetings presented a complete contrast to one held in St. George's Hall on the preceding evening, when the Rev. Joseph Bardsley, M.A., of London, delivered a lecture on the Bicentenary agitation. Although the vicar of Bradford, the Rev. Dr. Burnett, presided, when Mr. Bardsley appeared on the platform not above 300 people were present to welcome him, and his mortification must have been great, as a crowded meeting had been predicted.

HANLEY.—On the 7th inst., Mr. Carvell Williams lectured to a good audience at Hope Chapel, Hanley, on "The Church of England in 1862." Mr. T. Piddock acted as chairman. At the close of the lecture the Rev. R. M'All moved that Mr. Williams be thanked for his able and beautiful address, which, though it necessarily contained some severe statements, was characterised by a good spirit and temperateness of manner. Mr. Woodall and the Rev. R. H. Smith also briefly spoke.

BARNSLEY.—On Thursday last, Mr. Williams, in company with the Rev. J. Hanson, of Huddersfield, addressed a meeting in the Mechanics' Hall, Barnsley; Mr. C. Brady presided, and the Rev. J. Compston, Rev. J. Jewell, of the Methodist New Connexion, Mr. Andrew, and others, also spoke. A local committee was formed.

JUDGMENT IN THE "ESSAYS AND REVIEWS" CASE.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY v. THE REV. DR. ROWLAND WILLIAMS.

On Monday morning the Court of Arches was well filled with persons who, taking an interest in theological matters, were anxious to hear Dr. Lushington's judgment in the prosecution of the celebrated work called "Essays and Reviews."

Sir R. J. Phillimore, in stating the case, said that his lordship would remember that when the case was heard, certain articles charged against Mr. Williams were rejected by the Court. Others were ordered to be reformed, and others were admitted. The first article on which he asked for judgment was that which had been admitted, in which Dr. Williams was charged with having denied the inspiration of the Scriptures, maintaining that they were merely the expressions of a devout reason. This was opposed to the Articles of Religion (particularly to the 2nd and the 20th), and to the Nicene Creed, which stated in substance that the Holy Ghost came by the prophets. The Court had, moreover, held, that in thus writing, Dr. Williams had not merely represented the views of Dr. Bunsen; and that if a clergyman were allowed such a latitude, he might with impunity republish an infidel work. The learned counsel also read the other articles admitted, and said that the judgment of the Court, on admitting the articles on a previous day, had held that on three questions of the gravest importance to the Church of England, Dr. Williams had directly contravened the doctrine of the Church on three most important points; namely, Inspiration, Propitiation, and Justification. Under such cases, and looking to the security of the Church, he submitted that the punishment inflicted ought to be of the gravest. If the Bishop of Salisbury had brought these proceedings under the penal statute of Elizabeth, the Court would have had no option but to deprive Dr. Williams of his living; but the Bishop had no desire to place the Court in that position; but still he did ask the Court, with all the earnestness he could command, to pass a sentence of suspension upon Dr. Williams, until his errors should be retracted. A responsive plea had been put in, which, he presumed, meant to allege that the opinions contained in the book were the opinions of Baron Bunsen, and not those of Dr. Williams. To no one would such a formal retraction be more satisfactory than to the promoter of the present suit.

Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., followed on the same side, and contended that if Dr. Williams retracted it would be necessary that it should be done fully, and not simply upon the technical point. If the retraction were not complete Dr. Williams might use the Prayer-book, and the lessons indicated therein, and yet immediately afterwards go into the pulpit and say, the Apostles and Prophets were mistaken in their views. If such a course was allowed there was not an essential doctrine of Christianity which might not be explained away.

Dr. Deane said that if he thought that there was in Dr. Williams' "Essay" one word which denied that in the Holy Scriptures were to be found every-

thing necessary to salvation, he should be very sorry to advocate his cause. He thought the public and the right rev. prosecutor himself must be delighted to find that after so many charges had been alleged against the defendant, affecting, as it was said, the doctrine of the Church of England, so few remained. He contended that in every respect the case was a new one.

At this point, the court, at the request of the learned gentlemen on both sides, adjourned, as it was understood, for a settlement of the case; Sir R. Phillimore having made some propositions, on which, in the event of their being accepted, he proposed to withdraw from the prosecution. Dr. Deane said there was one point involved on which he should wish to have the judgment of the court, after which he would be inclined to make certain concessions. Sir R. Phillimore said he could not consent to that, and the case must therefore go on, and, if need be, to the Judicial Committee of Privy Council. The attempt to settle the intricate questions involved in "Essays and Reviews" therefore failed.

The Judge sentenced Dr. Williams to one year's suspension, with costs.

A similar judgment was pronounced in Mr. Wilson's case.

Notice of appeal was given in each case.

THE BICENTENARY OF 1662.

OPENING OF THE TAUNTON MEMORIAL HALL.

The opening of the Memorial Hall which has just been erected in connection with and contiguous to Paul's Meeting, was inaugurated on Thursday evening. It may be remembered that the church and congregation of this place of worship determined to commemorate the Bicentenary of 1662 with a lasting memorial. At the time there was no room connected with the chapel suitable for the holding of meetings and the delivery of lectures. Besides this extra class-rooms and school-rooms were required, and it was therefore determined that a hall should be built on the piece of land adjoining the chapel. The new Memorial Hall is a substantial building of Italian character, erected with red brick and Bath stone dressings. The chief front is surmounted by a bold cornice, in the frieze of which are the words "Memorial Hall," and under the sill of the windows is the following inscription:—

"Erected A.D. 1862, to commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the Church of Christ worshipping in the adjoining Meeting-house."

A residence for a chapel-keeper is built in the rear of the hall, and commands the entire premises. These erections, together with the commodious minister's residence, the spacious chapel, its vestry, small school-room and class-rooms, with long room over, now to be divided into eight class-rooms, render the accommodation as complete as that of any of our Independent churches.

A public tea-meeting was held at five o'clock on Thursday, in the new hall, which was well filled. The tea was provided by the ladies of the church and congregation, and by this means a sum of about 15*l*. was realised towards clearing off the debt on the building. After tea prayer was offered, and some passages of Scripture read, after which

The Rev. W. GUEST delivered an elaborate address. He dwelt upon the characteristics of Alleine, Newton, Warren, and others of their Puritan founders, and in allusion to the Bicentenary movement of the past year, said he felt sure that subsequent ages would attest that the *spirit* of their testimony had not been unbecoming the servants of Christ. After a general survey of the four great branches into which seceders from the Established Church are divided—the Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Independents, and the work they had been able to accomplish, he concluded by saying:—

If there be any one current into which human thought is flowing—if there be any one principle which wins the concurrence of the acutest intellects and most devout piety of Europe—it is that which is adverse to the intrusion of the secular into the affairs of Christ's Church. At this very hour a new reformation is springing up in Italy, and no less than ten thousand ecclesiastics, including episcopal vicars, canons, curates, doctors, and monks, have signed a remonstrance about the mischief of the union of the temporal and spiritual powers. If there be any one conviction which is deeper than another in the hearts of the best and most advanced men in England, it is that of all the evils which the past has handed down to us, none is greater than that enforcing religious uniformity and observance which made our fathers Nonconformists. Happily, this year is not to close without the Church Association for "promoting a Revision of the Liturgy" inaugurating efforts which must make this an absorbing national question. And the protest of this society is specially against those objectionable passages which have forbidden our Conformity. Brothers, take heart! The valleys have been trod. We are stepping on uplands, where the air is fresh and invigorating. Meanwhile, we are being drawn nearer together. Union between Nonconformists is the watchword of the hour. A leading Presbyterian clergyman read a paper with this intent at the late meeting of the Congregational Union. There are unmistakable signs of a union of the Baptists with ourselves. You will hear more of this ere long. And I venture to predict that in twelve months the excellent and devoted clergy in the Establishment who hold evangelical sentiments, will feel that it has been a great mistake to separate from us. There are sore conflicts at hand. An enforced uniformity of religious belief is leading to a reaction against human authority, which will pass over till it unites with the enemies of an authority that is Divine. Days that shall test us are coming. This, however, I will rejoice in: Be it by these awful rebounds to the side of a scepticism that has been fruitful of nothing but woe, or be it by a candid and patient testimony—that which the future will demand is truth.

We abide this issue. It devolves a most serious responsibility upon us. Our eyes must be single. Our aim must be pure. Our spirits must be in closer union with the Spirit of God. We must be so ready to trace all movements to him; so delivered from carnality and prejudice; so jealous for his glory; so steadfast to the testimony which the past has made decisive, and so open to receive further light; so obedient to teaching that we may be of quick understanding in the things of God—as to keep ourselves in the line of the Divine thought, which can mean nothing else than the open and universal profession of that truth which maketh free—free morally from sin, and spiritually in the liberty of the sons of God.

The Rev. Mr. MANN, of Trowbridge, then addressed the meeting, and was followed by A. ROOKER, Esq., of Plymouth, who congratulated the pastor, the church, and the congregation, on the erection of the hall, and remarked that he had been much surprised to find it so large and spacious a building, and one so well adapted for hearing. The speaker alluded to some of the results of the Bicentenary, one of which was to show to the world that Dissent had an ancestry. They rejoiced in the fact that this Bicentenary year had brought out in bold relief the acts of these noble men, and the grace of God which strengthened and upheld them in the work they had to do. (Hear, hear.) The Bicentenary year had shown them the principles that were involved in Nonconformity. There was absolute fidelity of conscience then, and there was also a want of it. There were many who by God's help were faithful to their conscience; but it was not impossible, if those who were at that time rulers of Church and State had been more kindly and more patient, the result might have been different. But it was so ordered by God that the time of trial should be sharp and sudden, and these men had to decide at once either for the truth or against it. He blessed God that there were so many who were faithful, but there were also some who were like the dead leaves in a stream—they floated just as the current ran, but had no power, one way or the other, to check it. But while hundreds and thousands might have failed in the time of trial, it was a glorious fact that nearly 2,000 men, rather than disobey the dictates of conscience, endured great suffering. (Hear, hear.) Great moral courage was required. The principle of all this lay in their deep, simple, earnest, fervent piety. And all this applied to the nineteenth as well as to the seventeenth century. There were some who found it impossible to stand the trials to which they were subjected. (Hear, hear.) The speaker then went on to say that, after all, the purpose of the present day was not to build cairns for the dead, but lighthouses for the future, and concluded with some stirring advice to young men.

Mr. HAWKINS said the total cost, including the land and the chapel-keeper's house, was 1,140*l*. Towards this about 1,000*l*. had been promised. Mr. GUEST said the next sentiment was, "The obligations from such an ancestry to that steadfastness in the faith, holiness of life, and liberal zeal, which are the peculiar demands of this era." The Rev. H. QUICK, of Bristol, spoke at some length and with much ability in support of this sentiment. The Rev. S. WILKINSON, of North-street Chapel, Taunton, also addressed the meeting upon the same subject. The Rev. W. GUEST gave as a sentiment, "Our fellow-Christians in the town: may our differences of judgment never violate our spiritual oneness!" (Applause.) The Rev. J. HARDING, of the Temple, Taunton, spoke upon the subject. The Rev. E. H. JONES and Mr. PRESSLAND subsequently addressed the meeting. The Doxology was then sung, and prayer having been offered, the meeting separated at ten o'clock.

TAMWORTH.—On Wednesday evening, December 3, a lecture was delivered in the Congregational Chapel, Tamworth, by the Rev. F. S. Williams, as representing the Congregational Union of England and Wales, on "The Results of the Bicentenary Commemoration." These were briefly:—1. That it had drawn the attention of the people of this country to some great historical facts and some vital ecclesiastical questions. 2. Another result has been the increased intelligence of Nonconformists on the history and claim of their Nonconformity. 3. Another result has been that justice has been done to the memory of the sainted dead. 4. The lecturer mentioned some of the financial results. Besides 50,000*l*. already contributed by Independents to the Lancashire Distress Fund, and besides large sums given to other objects, a Memorial Hall is to be erected in London, the Pastors' Retiring Fund has been largely increased, chapel debts have been extinguished, schools and ministers' houses have been built, evangelistic labours have been inaugurated, 100 chapels are to be built this year, and it is estimated that in the next three years 300 new Independent chapels will be erected, at a cost of 490,000*l*.

A NEW PHASE OF THE ANNUITY-TAX QUESTION.

In November last year, forty cases were raised in the ordinary Sheriff Court, Edinburgh, at the instance of the collector of the old Annuity-tax, for the recovery of the arrears of the tax. Appearance was entered for all the defenders, and a record was ordered to be made in two of the cases, the others being sisted until the decision was arrived at in these two cases. Preliminary defences were taken to the effect that while the claim made was statutory, the various acts were not libelled on, either in the summons or in the account annexed to it. The Sheriff-substitute repelled these defences; but on appeal

Sheriff Gordon has altered the interlocutor, dismissed the actions as incompetent, and found the collector liable in expenses. This decision is a most important one. It affects, it is believed, some 12,000 persons in Edinburgh, and involves alleged debts or claims amounting, it is said, to upwards of 30,000*l*. The claims are made by some fifteen of the city clergy, and the alleged debts are represented as due—the greater part by the Dissenters, and the smaller portion by the Churchmen of Edinburgh.

In reference to this decision the *Caledonian Mercury* says:—

What the timid, shivering souls, who, during the present year have paid their arrears of the old Annuity-tax, may now say or do, does not much matter to the general public. When people choose to pay money without asking or knowing the reason why, or because somebody tells them they owe it, they are not entitled to general sympathy. There is no reason, when they will it, that they should not be fleeced by as many collectors as may have the temerity to operate upon them. There is a large class, however, whose rents have been seized, and bank accounts arrested, who, it is to be hoped, will now insist upon getting a return of the sums of which they have been so illegally despoiled. Though the ingenuity of Mr. Miller has enabled him to upset on one out of many points the claim of the collector against the thousands whom he has summoned in the same way, it will be seen in the Sheriff's note that the authority upon which the warrants were issued is called in question, and that any amendment of the summonses is at this date of no avail. Nay, more, it will be observed that the Sheriff lays down a principle of vital importance in reference to the Police-tax now in course of collection. Our belief, often expressed, with regard to that tax is, that legally no citizen could be sued for it, and that any citizen whose goods, bank accounts, or rents might be seized for its payment, would have an action strong and clear against the collector of the Council. The tax, as we have a hundred times declared, is being collected under false pretences. The notices now in the hands of the citizens prove this; and we believe we are justified in asserting that while in respect to it, as in respect to the old Annuity-tax, as much will be collected as can be obtained by persuasion or intimidation, there are those in and out of the Council who know right well that the enforcement of payment under present circumstances would lead to numerous lawsuits and endless complications. Whether Sheriff Gordon does or does not corroborate this view of ours, let the following passage from his note show:—

The notoriety of a tax affords no kind of information to a judge; and if any tax shall be so unfortunate as to fill many hearts in Edinburgh with burning thoughts, and many mouths with fiery words, it is high time for judicial equanimity to remind everybody that a tax, being a local one, when demanded in a process at law, must be so set forth that a stranger who has entered into the occupation of premises in Edinburgh yesterday, and never had his foot in the city before, shall be able at once to comprehend the demand made upon him.

Besides the honest expression thus given to public opinion in reference to the abominable Clerico-Police-tax, let every citizen who has received his notice for payment of the Police-tax this year, or his summons for non-payment last year, say whether either the one or the other fulfils the condition which the sheriff says is essential. Of the supposed case alluded to by the sheriff, that of strangers "whose cradle has not happened to be rocked in the whirlwind of local agitation," we could give several illustrative examples—heads of families who paid last year in accordance with the police receipt, not imagining that in so doing they were paying, under the name of police, to support the city clergy. Naturally enough they felt themselves swindled, and *this year they mean not to be swindled again*, at all events with their own consent. The public will thank the sheriff for thus spiritedly, and, as he candidly confesses, against his own inclination, releasing from the grip of the clergy thousands of outraged citizens; they will also not the less appreciate the services of Mr. Miller in supplying him with the necessary legal machinery to effect his object. As to the clergy themselves, we wonder that long ere this they have not seen the injury they are inflicting on the sacred cause they profess to maintain by conduct so utterly opposed to the whole genius and spirit of a religion of mercy, justice, charity, and love. If the growing scepticism and infidelity of the city, in the midst of multiplying churches and other agencies for good, is not a product of their practical teaching, it will never be removed by it.

THE WESLEYAN RESPONSE TO THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

It will be remembered, that one point of the Bishop of London's Charge was the expression of a strong wish for the reconciliation of the Wesleyan body with the Church. "It is, indeed (said his Lordship), a result worth praying for, and labouring for, if by God's goodness this sad wound might be healed." The *Watchman* (Wesleyan organ) comments on this passage thus:—

A self-inflicted wound it was by the Established Church; but does it in fact remain as a wound? Is the Church Catholic injured by the progress of Methodism, or even the Church of England as a branch of that Church? What, in fact, would Dr. Tait do with us if he could regain to-morrow that large community which Wesley at first raised up as a society, but of which a Divine purpose, as we think, has made a Church? What would he do with our army of local preachers; what position would he assign to our ordained pastors; how would he subordinate to Anglicanism our Missionary Society, so as to make, for example, our ministers in Natal labour in due obedience to such a bishop as Dr. Colenso? We can remain friends and allies of the English Church and of other communions, so long as we stand on an equal footing at their side; but, if we were to consent to absorption and come under canonical obedience, we should be false to our special mission, and should impoverish ourselves without greatly enriching others, unless indeed they would consider our weakness and overthrow to be their own strength and advancement. Dr. Tait does not perceive, at least does not notice, that, throughout several sections of his charge, he is struggling against an accomplished fact—the spiritual parity of the Protestant churches. This is admitted by Nonconformists, so that Presbyterians, Independents, and Methodists, often very sincerely pro-

less to think it no honour to make a proselyte of a Churchman, or to prey upon one another. Why should the Church endeavour to annex any of them? We grant there is some excuse for her, in the natural desire to make good her title of a National Church. Yet Dr. Tait refuses to concede for this object the slightest change in the Prayer-book. . . . Here we must for the present take leave of his Lordship, waiving other discussions, which would be very interesting if we had leisure to sit at his feet and meditate upon his counsels. As a Bishop of the Church of England he counsels with admirable prudence, but he knows the difference between prudence and wisdom; and while praising him for the former of these two endowments, we admire also the gentleness of his tone and the equanimity of his expressions.

FREE CHURCH DISCIPLINE.—The Free Church of Unst have found it necessary to suspend twenty of their members for dancing, and two for happening to be passengers in a vessel that sailed on Sunday.—*Orcadian*.

BAD PROSPECT FOR MADAGASCAR.—The *Sheffield Independent* represents the Bishop of Cape Town as having said at a local missionary meeting that since his stay in England he had been endeavouring to obtain a bishop and six clergymen to establish a diocese in that island.

THE VICARAGE OF BRADING.—Some months ago the Rev. Dunbar Heath was "deprived" of this living by the Court of Arches, confirmed by the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, on account of heresy contained in some published sermons. The Masters and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge, who are the patrons, have presented the Rev. J. Glover, M.A., one of their chaplains, to the vicarage.

ARCHBISHOP CULLEN has issued a pastoral for Advent. It is a long one, and fully one half of it is devoted to the praise of the Virgin Mary, and to the dogma of the immaculate conception, the definition of which, for the first time, as an essential article of the faith by the present Pope, is made the subject of devout thankfulness. From this theme he passes abruptly to the "fatal indifferentism" of Protestants, of which he adduces Bishop Colenso as an example.

THE SECOND EMPIRE AND THE CHURCH.—The alliance of the church with the empire is creating again the terrible phenomenon of the eighteenth century—a fanaticism directed against religion. Every form of scepticism is deepening in colour and increasing in bitterness, and while good men weep over the blasphemies like that involved in the Bishop of Poitiers' sermon on the "Relics of Charroux," the indifferent are becoming enemies to the church, and men like M. Michelet are prepared for the second time to shriek out "Ecrasez l'infâme!" The hatred of the soutane is growing, till there is danger of hate to the Christian robe.—*Spectator*.

UNIVERSITY EXCLUSIVENESS.—It seems that, though a Dissenter can graduate B.A. at Cambridge, he cannot hold even a mathematical examinership there. In a recent case the authorities were understood to have selected a distinguished mathematician for their next moderator, but were unable to carry out their choice, as the 19th and 20th Vict. cap. 88, sec. 45, expressly forbids all office, temporary or permanent, to any one not declaring himself a member of the Church of England. It is a very foolish policy as well as a very narrow one.—*Spectator*.

BAPTIST CHURCHES.—We find the following in the *Star*:—"In your leader of Wednesday on the Ramsgate chapel case you give increased currency to a very prevalent mistake. Instead of the open communionists being found principally amongst the General or Arminian Baptists, and the close communionists being mainly Particular or Calvinistic Baptists, the contrary is the fact—nearly all the General Baptist churches being close or exclusive in their communion, and nearly all the open communion churches belonging to the Particular Baptists. W. Bontems, Hartlepool, Durham, Dec. 11."

ADISHAM RECTORY.—We believe that the rectory of Adisham, Kent, to which the Premier, in right of the Crown, has presented the Rev. Henry Montagu Villiers, M.A. (the eldest son of the late Bishop of Durham), will not exceed in value 580*l.* per annum, in consequence of a new house of residence having to be built, and 400*l.* per annum of the tithe being arranged to be annexed to the Chapelry of Staple, which the patron decided from the first should be dismembered from Adisham and formed into a separate parish, so as to give the Crown the patronage of two benefices, and to advance the spiritual interests of the locality.—*Globe*.

THE BIBLE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Bible stand which, during the late Exhibition, stood opposite the south-eastern entrance of the building, has been removed and re-erected at the Crystal Palace. It occupies a place in the South Transept, and will be used for the gratuitous distribution of the "Word of God" in six foreign languages, and for the sale of English portions of the Bible. At this stand 137,600 Gospels and Testaments entire in ten languages, 2,364,000 Scripture cards in seven, and about 715,000 Scripture leaflets in English, have been given away from June 9 to Nov. 1, 1862.

THE TRIBUTE TO THE POPE.—The *Tablet* implores its readers to purchase tickets in a monster lottery which will be drawn at Rome on the 19th of February, 1863, "in aid of the necessities of the Sovereign Pontiff." As an inducement to the "faithful" to take tickets, they are assured that a large number of the articles to be drawn or raffled for have been blessed by the Pope himself. Dr. Dixon, the Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland, has addressed to the clergy of his diocese a pastoral, informing them that the Pope "had vouchsafed to extend to the confraternity of the St. Peter's Pence the indulgences

and favours previously granted to the arch-confraternity in Rome." The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has issued a circular to the curates of his diocese, reminding them that on the third Sunday in Advent they are to collect Peter's pence. The archbishop says that he expects "pious generosity" to be exercised.

MR. PENDER, M.P., ON CHURCH-RATES.—The following is an extract from the nomination speech of the new member for Totnes:—"I say that every Englishman must be proud of the National Church. I believe that there is a feeling throughout the country that will lead to the maintenance of the national edifices; but I believe that, at the same time, the sooner the question of Church-rates is settled the better. It has created differences of opinion; it has not tended to harmony between different sects of Christians. I shall therefore vote for the abolition of Church-rates—(cheers)—believing that it will purify and make more useful that noble institution of which every Englishman has reason to be proud." (Loud cheers.)

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE AND SLAVERY.—In reference to the correspondence which appeared in our last number the Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance writes to the *Star*:—"I beg to assure your readers that the only reason why the suggestion of the London Committee of Correspondence with America has not been adopted is that it came too late for insertion in the circular, which, with the subjects for prayer, goes out six months before the beginning of the new year, in order to be translated into the various foreign languages and to reach all lands. I have written to Dr. Tomkins to apologise for not replying to his letter, and explaining the cause."

THE LATE REV. G. CLAYTON.—A handsome tablet has been placed in Upminster Chapel, to commemorate this eminent servant of God, by his mourning widow, containing the following inscription:—"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. George Clayton, of Gaines-park, who for more than fifty years honourably sustained the office of the pastor over the Independent church in York-street, Walworth, discharging his duties with an untiring fidelity and Christian courtesy which secured the warmest affection of a numerous congregation, while at the same time every effort to spread the Kingdom of Christ received the benefit of his eloquent and earnest advocacy. The latter years of his life were employed in promoting the work of God in this village, and were honoured by many tokens of Divine favour. He was born the 9th of April, 1783, and peacefully closed a life of holy devotedness on the 14th of July, 1862, aged seventy-nine years. 'Where I am, there shall also my servant be.'—John xii. 26."

THE CLERGY AND BISHOP COLENZO'S BOOK.—At a meeting of the clergy of the rural deanery of Droxford, on Wednesday, November 19, an address was agreed to to the Bishop of Winchester, &c., &c., protesting against Bishop Colenso's book. They say:—

We feel that the book is calculated to inflict a grievous injury, not only on our own Church, but upon the cause of religion at large; tending, as it manifestly does, to unsettle the faith of those who are feeble or unlearned, and to confirm in error those whose minds are already set against the truth. We have no doubt that the book will receive the most complete refutation; but we know not how to express in sufficiently strong terms our deep grief that such a book should have been written by a Bishop of our Church. We do not presume to suggest what steps should be taken by our ecclesiastical rulers to wipe off this stain upon our Church; but we trust that, if (as we are informed) there is no law under which the Bishop of Natal can be proceeded against, he may at least receive from those to whose opinion he would naturally attach the greatest weight, so strong an expression of their disapproval of his book, as may induce him to resign the high office which he now fills in the Church.

THE NEW BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.—We take the following biographical sketch of Dean Ellicott, the bishop elect of Gloucestershire and Bristol, from the new edition of "Men of the Time," published by Messrs. Routledge:—

The Very Rev. Charles John Ellicott, B.D., son of the Rev. Charles S. Ellicott, Rector of Whitwell, near Stamford, was born at Whitwell in 1819, and was educated at Oakham and Stamford Schools, and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in honours in 1841, and subsequently became Fellow of his college. He obtained the first Member's Prize in 1842, and the Hulsean Prize in 1843, on "The Obligations of the Sabbath." In 1848 he was appointed to the small living of Pilton, in Rutlandshire, which he resigned in 1853, and in the same year he was chosen to succeed Dean Trench as Professor of Divinity in King's College, London. In 1859 he was appointed Hulsean Lecturer, and in the following year was elected Hulsean Professor of Divinity at Cambridge. In 1861 he accepted the deanery of Exeter. Dean Ellicott is the author of "Critical and Grammatical Commentaries" on the Epistles of St. Paul to the Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, and Philemon, and on the "Pastoral Epistles." His latest work is "Historical Lectures on the Life of our Lord;" and his earliest, a "Treatise on Analytical Statics."

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE IN A PLACE OF WORSHIP.—On Sunday evening last, a scene, happily of the most unusual character, occurred in the Hartlepool Independent Chapel. During the opening prayer of the pastor at the evening service, a young man sitting in the side gallery at the preacher's right hand, was suddenly seized with a fit of a cataleptic character, and several persons having volunteered their assistance, he was immediately removed to the vestry of the chapel. While this was being effected another young man, also in the gallery of the building, fell down on the floor of the pew as if he had been struck dead on the spot. The excitement and

alarm occasioned by these unusual occurrences was further terribly intensified by, simultaneously, several females in different parts of the church having to be removed in a fainting state. What adds to the singularity of the phenomena is the fact that the pastor of the church does not in any respect belong to the "sensational" school of preachers; and that there was nothing in the service of the evening of an unusually exciting character. At the United Presbyterian Church, West Hartlepool, the same evening, several cases of a similar nature to the latter occurred.—*Stockton and Hartlepool Mercury*.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES AT HOLT.—The constable made the anticipated seizures on Thursday. The amounts claimed, though very trifling, could not be conscientiously paid, and therefore the friends of the Establishment made use of the law to help themselves. From Mr. D. Williams they took leather of the value of 2*l.*; from Mr. George Turner, a time-piece, worth 2*l.*; and from Mr. Curzon, a roll of zinc, of the value of about 24*s.* It is the duty and policy of the friends of religious liberty in Holt and its neighbourhood, to turn these oppressive proceedings into an opportunity of disseminating their principles. Out of evil to bring good—is the highest form of human wisdom. We would therefore urge our friends to arrange at once for a public meeting, with the view to express abhorrence at the petty tyranny indicated in this case, and the outrage inflicted upon the cause of religion, and to declare their conviction of the necessity for the abolition of all laws which give one religionist such unfair advantages over another. There can be no doubt that the leaders of the anti-Church-rate movement in the metropolis, and also in this city, will give their cordial concurrence and practical sympathy when called upon. Instead of being disheartened by onslaughts of this kind, the Nonconformists of Holt should know that it is only by the stimulus which such excesses produce, that the agitation for redress can be sustained with sufficient energy to command success.—*Norfolk News*.

RELIGIOUS PROGRESS OF INDIA.—If we might indicate the present religious state of Southern India by a sweeping generalisation, we should say that Brahminism is dying out, whilst Hindooism is assuming more elevated and spiritual forms. The caste system altogether is giving way. The Brahmins are beginning to look with disdain on the priestly profession; the Soodras are throwing off the domination of the Brahmins; whilst the hundred and one sub-divisions, or communities, which are also dignified by the name of castes, are losing that hold which they had exercised upon their individual members in days of yore, or even in the days of Dubois. The same improved sense of right and wrong which led the native reformers at Bombay to assail the immoral practices of the Maharajahs has opened the eyes of many of the more enlightened of the native community to those vices which have been too often practised under the guise of religion. We wish that this loosening of the caste system had promoted private morality, but we are afraid that the results in this direction are not always favourable. But in religious matters there is a growing appreciation of the existence of one God—not so much the Creator of the universe, as the God of justice and of mercy. Moreover, there is a tendency to spiritualise the old myths, and to regard the images of the deities and their incarnations more as objects to fix the attention of the worshipper, than as the actual gods themselves. Then, again, the Gooroos, though still commanding an outward respect, are no longer revered from the heart as they used to be in olden time. Their presence is regarded as a restraint, and their exactions as a burden. In other words, these are the dawnings of a religious movement which only requires leaders, and if the experience of history be worth anything at all, those leaders will in due time appear. The doctrines of Buddha still linger in the land, and a spark would kindle them into flames. It may be ten years or twenty, but a second revolution is certain in the end, and, as we believe, it will be not from without, but from within.—*Hurkaru*.

Religious Intelligence.

THE LONDON CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the London Congregational Association was held in the Congregational Library on Monday evening; Mr. Samuel Morley, the President of the Society, in the chair. There was a very full attendance, and the meeting included a number of ladies. Amongst the ministers present were—the Rev. Thomas Binney, Rev. Henry Allon, Rev. Thomas James, Rev. A. M. Henderson, Rev. J. Guthrie, Rev. A. Hannay, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. Dr. Waddington, &c.; and letters of apology for unavoidable absence, but expressing a hearty concurrence in the object of the meeting, were intimated from the Rev. Samuel Martin, Rev. George Smith, Rev. Joshua Harrison, Rev. Newman Hall, Rev. R. Robinson, and others. There were many of the deacons of the churches present.

The Rev. Mr. STATHAM having offered prayer, The CHAIRMAN called on the secretary, the Rev. J. H. Wilson, to read the report. The report commenced by calling attention to the fact, that since their first meeting, two years ago, more than one 100,000 souls had been added to the population of London, and then showed by a number of very remarkable statistics that no denomination of Christians had been able to keep pace in supplying the means of grace with this increase, to say nothing of

the spiritual destitution represented by the Census returns of 1851, from which it appeared that out of a population of two and a-half millions only 380,000 were present in church or chapel, leaving more than two millions of persons living in open neglect of the public ordinances of religion. The report then stated what had been done by the association with a view to promote the evangelisation of London, from which it appeared, that although the society had met with unexpected difficulties at the outset of its history, and the first secretary had been called to another sphere of labour, these difficulties had been got over, and an amount of work had been done which promised to be attended with very happy results. The services of the Secretary of the Home Missionary Society had been obtained, and the metropolis had been divided into ten divisions, according to the postal districts and proposed local unions of all the churches in each district, to be represented in and affiliated with the parent institution. Tables of the population in each district, compiled from official returns supplied by the Superintendent-Registrar, were given, and many very important details of spiritual destitution in certain given localities were added, with a comprehensive reference to the provision made for its removal. The association had established a cause in Whitfield Chapel, Long-acre, which was now self-supporting, sustained and assisted missions in Somers-town, Mile-end, Gascoigne-place, and other districts, besides promoting special services in several halls and open-air meetings in the summer season. It had also made arrangements for the establishment of a few district or territorial missions, and there was good reason to hope that it would ultimately be a great blessing to London.

Mr. HENRY SPICER, treasurer of the association, read a statement of the accounts, from which it appeared that the income and expenditure of the society had been something under 1,000*l*. He sincerely hoped that the churches would now be awakened to do more than they had yet thought of doing to promote the great object of the association. Up to the present time their funds had come almost entirely from a few liberal-hearted gentlemen; but now that they were fairly established he looked for a large increase of annual subscriptions and collections.

Mr. MORLEY felt thankful for another opportunity of urging the great need there was for more work in carrying forward this great enterprise—the evangelisation of London. If such a paper as Mr. Wilson had just read had come from the South Seas, Exeter-hall would soon have been filled with earnest sympathisers; but, living as they were in the midst of a mass of social misery and spiritual destitution which was perfectly appalling, it did not affect them so as to call forth all their Christian energies and resources to deal with it and remove it. He had attended a meeting in Stepney, of the Eastern Union, the other evening, when statements of a character which could scarcely be published were made, which could scarcely find a parallel in any heathen land; yet they must look those facts in the face, ay, and grapple with them, too, until by God's blessing they had brought the saving truths of the Gospel into contact with every heart. And how was that to be done? Horace Mann, in view of the religious statistics of 1851, which showed a frightful amount of spiritual destitution in London, showed also that church and chapel building would not meet the evil. "Church and chapel inclination," said Mr. Mann, "is more needed than church and chapel accommodation." (Hear, hear.) Not that they meant to discourage chapel-building. (Hear.) He was as anxious to support and encourage the Chapel-building Society as any one could be; but the more he came to know of the character of the spiritual destitution of London, the more he was impressed with the need of direct personal effort, and such kinds of agency as would reach the very lowest depths of the evil so much to be deplored, for, as Mr. Mann had truly said, "If they will not come to us, we must go to them." The City Mission was all very good so far as it went, but they only touched the surface of the evils. To meet them thoroughly the churches must come out, and by personal consecration, systematic effort, and self-denial, carry the Gospel into every house and home, until the whole of the dense mass of sin and sensualism which existed in many parts of London were permeated by the truth. He was more impressed with the need of that kind of agency than of paid agency, although both were wanted; and while he thanked God for the good that the association had already accomplished, he could not but earnestly press the need for vastly increased efforts, beyond anything which they had yet attempted or dreamt of in the undertaking to which they had committed themselves. There were thousands of right-hearted men, ay, and women too, in the churches, who only wanted the word of encouragement from their ministers and deacons, and he did hope that the association, in its excellent scheme of local unions, would be instrumental in stirring up all the churches so as to call forth this talent and set it to work. It was a sad blot on their Christianity, that while one-tenth of the inhabitants of Rarotonga, according to the testimony of the Rev. Mr. Gill, only were absent from chapel on the Sunday, seventy-five per cent. were absent in London; but until every church realised the principle of individual consecration to go out into the highways and compel them to come in, these non-attendants would never come to the appointed and ordinary means of grace. (Hear.) He felt encouraged, nevertheless, by the present aspect of the cause, and he felt that just as the counties had been stirred by the action of the Home Missionary Society in helping them to help them-

selves, so would the district associations come to be stirred when the central body, acting from Blomfield-street, on a similar principle, would offer every possible inducement and encouragement to promote local action, and he could not conceive any subject more important, or any object more grand, than the subject now for their consideration, and the object at which they aimed in seeking, to the extent of their means and opportunities, to promote the evangelisation of London. (Applause.)

Resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting were then moved and spoken to by the Rev. J. T. Pearsall, Rev. Clement Dukes, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. I. V. Mummery, Rev. Dr. Waddington, Rev. J. Guthrie, and other ministers; as well as by Mr. Eusebius Smith, Mr. James Alexander, Mr. James Townley, and other gentlemen, and the meeting, which was very earnest and hearty, cordially adopted them.

SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES.—The preachers on Sunday were—Sadler's-wells: Afternoon, Rev. W. Grigsby, of Tabernacle Chapel, Finsbury; Evening, Rev. J. K. Stallybrass, Independent Chapel, Putney. Surrey: Rev. F. Tucker, B.A., of Camden-road Chapel. Standard: Rev. J. B. French, Independent Chapel, Richmond. Pavilion: Rev. A. C. Price, of the Lock Hospital Chapel. St. James's Hall: Afternoon, Rev. Edward White, Kentish-town; Evening, Rev. W. G. Lewis, Bayswater Chapel. Britannia Theatre: Evening, Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, John-street Chapel. Lambeth Baths: Evening, Rev. Wm. O'Neill, New Broad-street Chapel.

THE DISSIDENT COLLEGES.—On Wednesday evening the Rev. Samuel Martin, chairman of the Congregational Union, invited the committee of the Union, with other friends, to meet the professors and students of the London colleges—New, Hackney, and Cheshunt, at Willis's-rooms. After tea and coffee had been served, his young guests, with their elder friends, amused themselves with the microscopes, stereoscopes, drawings from the South Kensington Museum, autographs, and other objects of interest, which had been provided in abundance for their entertainment, and a most pleasant evening was spent, all acknowledging their great obligations to Mr. Martin for such an agreeable opportunity of unrestrained Christian intercourse.

PALACE GARDENS CHAPEL, THE MALL, BAYSWATER.—**RECOGNITION SERVICES.**—This chapel, which has been open some five or six months, is a large, commodious, and handsome building, some sixty feet square, and affording accommodation for 1,100 people. It has side and end galleries, with a platform-pulpit supported on light ornamental cast-iron columns, slightly recessed under a Corinthian entablature in wall of other end. The gas lights are stars pendent from the ceiling, and the whole has an agreeable, light, and airy effect. The building, at a cost of 4,600*l*., has been erected by Robert Offord, Esq., of St. Peter's-terrace, Kensington-park, and the pastor of the church (which is Baptist, admitting all Christians to membership simply on the ground of their conversion to God, without making Baptism an essential) is the Rev. John Offord, an able minister, for many years known in the south-west of England. On Thursday evening last was the recognition service of the pastor and church by other Christian ministers and friends, Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., M.P., in the chair; and on either side were the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, M.A., the Revs. F. Tucker, B.A., J. Stoughton, W. Roberts, Dr. King, Mr. Vines, and S. Bird. Several addresses were delivered, and the proceedings were of a most interesting character.

SECOND SEPTENARY OF BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL.—On Friday evening week there was a meeting of a rather unusual character and special interest in Freemasons' Hall. It was the fourteenth anniversary of the opening of Bloomsbury Chapel, and upwards of 500 of the present and former members of the church and congregation were gathered together to celebrate the occasion. They met to tea at six o'clock, and, after an hour of friendly intercourse, the chair was taken at seven o'clock by the esteemed founder of the chapel, Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., M.P. The meeting was opened with a hymn, after which the Rev. W. Bentley, of Sudbury, former member of the church, offered prayer. The chairman then referred briefly to the many mercies of the past fourteen years, and the many causes for grateful joy. The pastor, the Rev. W. Brock, enlarged on the same topics, and gave in interesting detail a statement of the progress of the church, the total number admitted to fellowship having been 1,354; its present numbers, which he reported as 796, its losses by death and other causes, and the various efforts of usefulness now in active operation. He was followed by the Rev. John Graham, of Craven Chapel, who expressed the most cordial sympathy and congratulation. The Rev. W. Landels, of Regent's-park Chapel, and the Rev. Thomas Jones, of Bedford Chapel, Oakley-square, followed with hearty expressions of kindness and fraternal regard. Mr. James Benham, one of the deacons, then presented a brief detailed summary of the financial history of the past fourteen years, stating the total sum raised for all purposes, exclusive of the very large sum liberally given by the founder in erecting the building, to have been upwards of 39,000*l*. Mr. M'Cree, the active and zealous missionary employed by the church, gave an interesting account of his labours amongst the poor of St. Giles's, and mentioned some striking facts in illustration of the large measure of success with which his efforts had been blessed. The Rev. W. Brock, jun., of Hampstead, introduced himself as one of the children of the church, alluded to his own connexion with its history from the first, and

stated that he owed, under God, all he had of usefulness to its influence. A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by the Rev. W. Brock, seconded by the Rev. W. Landels, and adopted unanimously. Sir S. M. Peto briefly returned thanks, and the meeting terminated with singing and prayer.

HEYWOOD—RECOGNITION SERVICES.—The services in connection with the public recognition of the Rev. T. Slade Jones, late of Leamington, the newly-appointed minister to the Independent church, York-street, Heywood, Lancashire, commenced on Saturday evening week, by a special devotional meeting, which was addressed by the Rev. W. R. Thorburn, M.A., Bury. On Sunday, preparatory sermons were preached in the morning and evening, by the Rev. J. Falding, D.D., principal of the Rotherham Protestant Dissenting College. On Monday afternoon, the services commenced in the chapel at half-past two, the Rev. J. Bruce, of Manchester, reading the 3rd chapter of 1 Timothy, and part of the 4th chapter of 2 Timothy, after which he offered the opening prayer. The Rev. H. W. Parkinson, of Rochdale, then delivered the introductory address, on the Scriptural constitution of a Christian church. The Rev. Professor C. C. Tyte, of Rotherham College, having offered the recognition prayer, Mr. T. Knight, the senior deacon of the church, made the statement customary on such occasions, of the cause of the appointment of a new pastor by the congregation; and Mr. Jones made a confession of his faith, his reasons for Nonconformity, &c. The Rev. Dr. Falding delivered an impressive charge to the new minister. At five o'clock a tea-party was held in the school-room, to which about 300 sat down. At half-past six a public meeting was held in the chapel, which was well attended. The Rev. T. S. Jones presided. After addresses by the Rev. J. H. Ouston, of Bury, J. R. Thomson, and the Rev. Dr. Falding, the Rev. H. W. Parkinson, in a very humorous speech, alluded to former speakers having likened the connection between pastor and congregation to that of husband and wife; in which case the Heywood congregation had five husbands, and all of them living. He had himself been present at the ceremonials of three of them. He had, however, reason to believe that they had not sought these frequent changes, and he trusted no feeling of fickleness would be the result. He hoped he should never have to assist at another ordination or recognition in Heywood so long as he lived; but that many of the young people present would live to congratulate Mr. Jones on the completion of his fifty years' ministry, and assist in presenting him with a testimonial in consequence. The Rev. R. Dawson, B.A., late of China, then briefly addressed the meeting, assuring them that Mr. Jones bore the highest character in the neighbourhood of Rotherham, as he had himself ascertained by personal inquiry. E. Dawson, Esq., J.P., of Lancaster (introduced to the meeting by Mr. Jones as one of the oldest deacons in the county), gave a short address, principally bearing on the duties of the laity in the church, which he was happy to say, were becoming generally better understood and practised. The concluding prayer was offered by the Rev. G. Shaw, of Patricroft, and the meeting separated after singing the doxology.

Correspondence.

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE CENTRAL UNITED BARTHOLOMEW COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In common with many of your readers, you will, I am sure, be glad to learn, that the letter on this topic which you were kind enough to insert a fortnight ago has already produced the happiest effects. Orders for our volumes to the worth of about 30*l*. have already come in,—the large majority of them being orders for a single copy of each of the three volumes. As the cash value of each such order is but six shillings and ninepence, you will easily compute how numerous the orders must have been.

Still I have reason to believe that many of your readers, many even of those who intend to possess themselves of our publications, have not favoured us with an application. Permit me, therefore, once more to remind them that, after the close of the present year, i.e., in a fortnight from this date, these volumes will be out of their reach; or, if still to be had, will in all likelihood be sold at an advanced price. Only a few hundred copies are now in our hands; the type has long since been distributed; so that when the present stock is exhausted, it will be difficult, perhaps impossible, to secure a copy of these three books, whose high worth has on all hands been recognised, and which form one of the most valuable mementoes of this Bicentenary year.

The Committee have done all they could to place them within the reach of those who are likely to use them well. And—let me repeat the statement I made a fortnight since—they have now authorised me to make a deduction in the price of them of 25 per cent. For cash, therefore, the following volumes may be had by all who will be at the pains of sending direct to the office for them:—

1. "English Puritanism," Mr. Bayne's Historical Essay, with the documents edited by the Rev. George Gould (the 6s. vol., 670 pp., demy octavo), at 4s. 6d.
2. The Eleven Historical Tracts (the 2s. vol., 240 pp. crown octavo), at 1s. 6d.
3. The Willis's Rooms Lectures (the 1s. vol., 140 pp. crown octavo), at 9d.

The cost of the three volumes is 6s. 9d. For 1s. extra they will be sent by book post to any part of the United Kingdom—the postage costing us 1s. 2d.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

SAMUEL COX, Secretary.

10, Broad-street-buildings, London, E.C.,
Dec. 15, 1862.

BICENTENARY NONCONFORMIST MEMORIAL AND LITERATURE FUND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—On no department of the year's work, do the Bicentenary Committee look back with greater satisfaction than on the steps they took to procure the production of Dr. Vaughan's Memorial Volume. What the testimony of the opposite side will be, remains to be seen when the oracles speak—but it is gratifying to know that among our own friends there is a uniform expression of approval and admiration of the volume.

In addition to the public expressions of approval which have appeared in the reviews, I have received many in the course of correspondence, of which the following may be taken as samples:—

One of my friends says, "As I read it, I felt thankful that I was a Nonconformist rather than a Churchman; a Congregationalist rather than a Presbyterian." Another writes, "I am thoroughly convinced of the value of the book, and its special fitness to the present crisis." A third says, "I procured a copy as soon as it was published, and can bear witness to its value." A fourth, "I am devouring Dr. Vaughan's book." A fifth, "Dr. Vaughan's most interesting and valuable work is in my hands, and my own sense of its worth will dispose me to do my utmost to aid in its circulation in this town."

At this season of the year many persons feel a pleasure in giving expression to their love and respect for their minister, by making him a Christmas or a New Year's present. If any of our readers should wish to do so this year let them feel assured that, if their minister has not procured the volume, few books could be more acceptable to him than Dr. Vaughan's "English Nonconformity."

Parents and friends who wish to make a present to the young, will find a very suitable one in "Honour to whom Honour," by the Rev. F. S. Williams. It contains the story of the two thousand confessors of 1662, written expressly for the young, and got up in elegant binding to make it suitable for presents.

Our last list, as published in your columns a fortnight ago, showed that the fund had then reached 152,000. At the time when this letter is published, there will still remain a fortnight of this memorable year, in which any of our friends who have not yet done so, may place their names upon the list, in the first year of the Bicentenary Commemoration. If any of your readers who revere the memory of the sainted dead, wish to give an offering of gratitude to God for the liberties that have come to us through their sacrifices and sufferings, they can do it in this way. They will at the same time be acting in harmony with their brethren, and can appropriate their offering to that department of Christian effort which most commends itself to their judgment.

I remain, Sir, yours most truly,
JOHN CORBIN.

4, Blomfield-street, London, E.C.,
Dec. 15, 1862.

SEVERE DISTRESS AT HINCKLEY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—You have kindly inserted the appeals of the Lancashire brethren in distress; we are therefore encouraged to ask you to render us equal service by making known the destitute and trying condition of the stocking-makers of Hinckley and its neighbourhood. We have been somewhat longer in feeling the extreme pressure of the cotton famine, but when it has come our distress is equally, and even more severe; and, indeed, had not our operatives been inured to poverty, our cry must have been raised long ago. We are now, however, compelled to put forth our utmost effort to meet the appalling distress. A relief fund for "Hinckley and the district" has been formed. At a meeting held in the town-hall of the ratepayers of Hinckley and the adjoining parishes, it was unanimously resolved,—"That, in consequence of the frightful distress existing in this town and neighbourhood, an urgent appeal be made to all persons connected by the trade, or otherwise with the district, to render immediate assistance in alleviating the present alarming destitution."

The town of Hinckley and neighbouring villages contain about 15,000 inhabitants, nearly all of whom are dependent upon the cotton stocking-manufacture. When all hands are fully employed the operatives are exceedingly poor, and their earnings very much below the average of some other manufacturing districts. They have, therefore, little or no opportunity of saving anything for "the rainy day." For many months a large amount of privation and suffering has been manfully borne, but, during the last two or three months, our case has gradually become worse; the winter is setting in, wants have been increased, and means of subsistence almost entirely cut off. A large proportion of the stocking-makers are now living on ninepence per week per head, while many are entirely destitute. A few cases, taken at random out of my own visitors' book, will illustrate the amount of distress to be met with throughout the Hinckley district.

	Incoming.
Case A, father, mother, and five children,	0 0
" B, do. do. " five "	0 6
" C, do. do. " five "	2 6
" D, do. do. " seven "	5 0
" E, do. do. " six "	2 0
" F, do. do. " seven "	7 6
" G, do. do. " six "	0 0

Our poor's rates for the last seven years have averaged 7s. 4d. in the pound, and, high as this rate is, it does not at all represent the amount of distress which prevails. The "Able-bodied Pauper Act" drives many to beg their bread from door to door, or to sing in the streets, rather than break up their little home and family and go into the workhouse, and consequently a large amount of distress never appears in the reports of the guardians. This state of things, of course, tells upon the whole of our society, and scores of small tradesmen are, if possible, in a worse condition than the stocking-makers. We have not been in haste to appeal for help. It is rather after a careful investigation of our condition, and with great reluctance, that we ask for aid. A local subscription has been made which amounts to over 1,000l., but this is entirely inadequate to meet the wants of the case, and it is the opinion of all who know our condition, that unless a much larger sum be raised, and liberal and timely relief be supplied to our suffering poor, many of them will perish of sheer starvation, and those who survive will sink down into a state of pauperism most frightful to contemplate. To their honour, however, be

it mentioned, that at the last sitting of the magistrates here there was only one case of crime. Mr. W. G. Farmer and Mr. J. Atkins are the secretaries of the general relief fund, and will gratefully receive any contributions sent to them.

But we would especially remind those of the "Household of faith" that there are many cases of distress in our churches which are only known to the minister or deacons, and which can best be relieved through the ordinary channels of the Church's charity. And it should not be forgotten that many of our own poor members are deprived of their usual monthly relief from the ordinance, because those who gladly supply it are deprived of the means of giving. I may mention a case in which a family of nine persons have only had thirteen shillings and sixpence for the last six weeks. The mother of this family still refused to apply for relief to the general fund. For the last twelve months Mrs. James has had a sewing-meeting, where many of our industrious poor are taught to make their own garments. Numbers of these people are absent, because they have no means of paying the smallest amount for the purchase of material to make up, and that at a time when more clothing is most needed. I have this day visited several families, and found their beds almost destitute of sheets or blankets, and their persons of clothing. Any quantity of clothes, bedding, food, or money would be speedily turned to good account, and will be gratefully received.

I am, dear Sir, your truly,
JOHN JAMES,

Pastor of the Independent Church and Deputy
Chairman of the Relief Committee for the
Hinckley District.
Stockwell Head Parsonage, Hinckley,
Dec. 12, 1862.

Foreign and Colonial.

AMERICA.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S MESSAGE.

The Persia, which left New York on the 3rd, and came nearly all the way across the Atlantic with only one engine at work, brings the message of President Lincoln to Congress delivered on the 1st inst. It is moderate in tone towards the South, but firm for the maintenance of the Union. On foreign relations, he says:—

If the condition of foreign relations is less gratifying than at former periods, it is certainly more satisfactory than a nation so unhappily distracted might have apprehended.

In June last there was some grounds to expect that the maritime Powers which, at the commencement of the American difficulties, so unwisely and unnecessarily recognised the insurgents as belligerents, would soon recede from that position which has proved only less injurious to themselves than to America. But temporary reverses which afterwards befel the Federal arms, and which were exaggerated by disloyal citizens abroad, have hitherto delayed that act of simple justice. President Lincoln acknowledges with special pleasure that the execution of the slave-trade treaty by the British Government has been marked with a jealous respect for the authority of the United States and the rights of their moral and loyal citizens.

In reference to disagreement arising out of the blockade, &c., he says:—

There are, moreover, many cases in which the United States or their citizens suffer wrongs from the naval or military authorities of foreign nations, which the Government of these States are not prepared at once to redress. I have proposed to some foreign States thus interested mutual conventions to examine and adjust such complaints. This proposition has been made specially to England, France, Spain, and Prussia. In each case it has been kindly received, but not yet formally adopted.

President Lincoln recommends an appropriation for the owners of the Norwegian barque Admiral Riola. He says that commercial and consular treaties have been negotiated with Turkey, Liberia, and Hayti. The Message recommends extraordinary measures to promote the development of the mineral regions of the United States territories, and continues:—

Public expenditures for the suppression of the rebellion have been met with promptness, and public credit is fully maintained. The suspension of specie payments by the banks made a large issue of United States notes unavoidable. The judicious legislation of Congress making these notes a legal tender has made them the universal currency, and satisfied partially for the time the long-felt want of a uniform circulating medium. A return to specie payments, however, at the earliest period compatible with due regard to all interests, should ever be kept in view.

President Lincoln urges the early completion of the Pacific Railroad, and recommends the favourable action of Congress on projects for enlarging the great canals in New York and Illinois. The military and commercial importance of enlarging the Illinois and Michigan canals is presented in a report of the Secretary of War.

In accordance with the purpose expressed in the second paragraph of the emancipation proclamation of September last, President Lincoln calls the attention of Congress to what may be called "compensated emancipation." He then argues upon the impracticability of disunion, and says:—

There is no line, straight or crooked, suitable for a national boundary, upon which to divide. Our strife pertains to ourselves, to the passing generations of men, and it cannot without convulsion be pushed for ever with the passing of one generation.

In this view the President recommends the adoption of the following resolutions and articles amendatory to the Federal constitution:—

Resolved by the Federal Congress, two-thirds of both

Houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed to the legislatures or conventions of the several States as amendments to the Federal constitution, all or any of which articles when ratified by three-fourths of these legislatures or conventions to be valid as part or parts of the constitution.

"First: Every State wherein slavery now exists which shall abolish slavery at any time before January of the year 1900 shall receive the following compensation from the United States:—

"Presidents of the United States shall deliver to every such State United States Bonds bearing a certain interest for each slave known to have been therein by the eighth United States census, these bonds to be delivered to such state by instalments, or in one parcel at completion of abolishment, according as abolishment shall have been gradual or at one time. Any State introducing or tolerating slavery after having received these bonds shall refund the bonds and interest to the United States.

"Second: All slaves who have acquired freedom by the chances of war at any time before the end of the rebellion shall be for ever free. Loyal owners will, however, receive compensation. Congress may appropriate money and provide for colonising free negroes with their consent at places outside the United States."

President Lincoln then enters into a long and earnest argument to prove that the adoption of these amendments to the constitution are politic on the grounds of justice, economy, and interest, and as a means which cannot fail to restore the Union. He, however, says that the plan is recommended, not but that a restoration of the national authority would be accepted without its adoption. Nor would the war nor the emancipation proclamation be stayed because of the recommendation of this plan, but its timely adoption would no doubt bring restoration and thereby stay these proceedings. This plan would secure peace more speedily and cost less than if force alone is relied upon. Many objections may present themselves, but the question is, can anything better be imagined or done.

The Message concludes by saying that other means may succeed—this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, and just—a way which, if followed, the world will for ever applaud, and God must for ever bless.

THE OFFICIAL REPORTS.

The report of the Federal Secretary of War has been published. It states that the Federal army at present numbers 800,000 fully armed and equipped men. When the quotas are filled the army will number 1,000,000 men.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy says that the Federal naval force consists of 323 steamers and 104 sailing vessels, carrying in all 3,268 guns. The Secretary of the Navy refers to the depredations of the steamer Alabama, and says:—

The Alabama went forth from England to destroy American shipping, and how far and to what results this abuse may be carried with impunity to the Government which tolerates it is matter of grave consideration.

This lawless rover, though built in and sailing from England, has no acknowledged flag or recognised nationality. Before the Alabama left England the British authorities were informed by the recognised official agents of the Federal Government of her character and purposes. The British Government, thus invoked, came too late to prevent her sailing. To what extent under these circumstances the British Government is bound in honour and justice to make indemnification for the destruction of private property is a question which may present itself for disposal. It is alluded to now from a sense of duty towards American commercial interests, and from the fact that recent intelligence indicates that other vessels of similar character are fitting out in England.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury states that the estimate of the public debt in July, 1863, must be advanced to 1,120,000,000 dols. If the war continues with undiminished disbursements, the estimated debt in July, 1864, will be 1,744,000,000 dols. The average rate of interest on the whole loan is 4 3-5 per cent. The estimated receipts from the Customs for the current year are 61,000,000 dols., and from internal revenue 85,000,000 dols. There is a balance of 276,700,000 dols. to be provided for. To make up the deficiency the Secretary recommends the imposition of a moderate tax on the corporate circulation, and that the banks should issue a circulation furnished by Government, and thus establish one sound uniform circulation of equal value throughout the country. From this source he expects to obtain 50,000,000 dols. He further proposes to raise 200,000,000 dollars by loans, and 20,000,000 dols. by enlarging the limits for temporary deposits. The Secretary recommends no more paper money schemes, but a series of measures looking to the gradual return to gold and silver. The resources of the country will always enable her to pay the interest on her debt or to reduce the principal to whatever point the public interest may indicate. He recommends that whatever may be needed in excess of the sum to be supplied by revenue be obtained by loans, without increasing the issue of United States notes beyond the amount fixed by law. Mr. Chase also recommends that the American gold half-eagle be made of equal weight and fineness with the English sovereign.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Several resolutions proposed in Congress by the Opposition members to inquire into unconstitutional arrests have been voted down.

Congress has adopted a resolution directing the Committee on Naval Affairs to report on the cheapest and most expeditious mode of placing vessels of war on Lake Ontario when the exigency may arise for establishing water-communication from other waters to the lakes.

A resolution has been offered in Congress approving President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation.

Another resolution has been offered declaring that the Union must be preserved, and denouncing as guilty of high treason any executive or legislative department which shall propose or advise any acceptance of peace or any other basis than the integrity of the Union as it existed before the rebellion.

A further resolution has been offered to hold a convention of delegates from all the States at Louisville in April next, to consider the state of the country, and the proper means to be pursued for restoring the Union.

THE PRESS AND THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL.

The *New York Herald* thinks that the Radical party in Congress will not listen to President Lincoln's proposed amendment to the Constitution. The *New York World* supports the President's plan. The *Commercial Advertiser* is surprised that President Lincoln's Message totally ignores all military and naval sacrifices, and observes that it contains not one word of sympathy for the past or cheer for the future. The *New York Times* says that the President's proposal will not receive universal assent, and thinks it doubtful whether Congress will pass the amendment.

THE WAR.

Seven transports and two iron-clad steamers have sailed from Fortress Monroe under sealed orders.

The Confederates appear to have left the section of the country north of the Rappahannock. Their cavalry had previously crossed that river and captured two entire companies of Federal cavalry.

Five Federal gunboats are reported to have proceeded up the Rappahannock, and anchored opposite King George's Courthouse.

The Federal expedition which had sailed from Suffolk, Virginia, has recaptured the Federal battery taken some time since, and has driven the Confederates across the Blackwater River. The gunboat *Ellis* was blown up during the expedition up the New River, North Carolina, to prevent her falling into the hands of the Confederates.

The Federal commander has informed the authorities of Fredericksburg that as long as no hostile demonstration was made from Fredericksburg he should not shell the town. General "Stonewall" Jackson is reported to have joined General Lee at Fredericksburg. The Confederates are working on the defences of Fredericksburg, and the Federals are erecting fortifications commanding the Confederate positions. The Confederates have captured a train of Federal wagons with ordnance stores in Virginia.

The naval expedition under General Banks has sailed; its destination is still a secret.

Federal General Grant continues to advance in Mississippi, and has occupied Abbeville, which has been abandoned by the Confederates.

The Federal expedition which went up the Mississippi has discovered that the crop of cotton remaining in the States of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas, has been over-estimated. The destruction of cotton having been very considerable, only a few thousand bales remain in the counties bordering the river. The new crop will be very small.

The Southern journals urge retaliation for outrages and plundering committed by General Burnside's army in Virginia.

General Fitz John Porter is on trial at Washington for not obeying General Pope's orders. During the trial, a letter was read from General McClellan, written during Pope's campaign, urging General Porter to give his whole support to General Pope, for the sake of the country.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

The Legislature of Alabama has placed 1,000,000 dols. at the disposal of the Governor, and has authorised him to impress one-tenth of the negroes in Alabama to erect defences. The negroes will at once commence to obstruct the channels leading into Mobile Bay, and the rivers above the city.

The Southern journals assert that the Federals in West Tennessee have forbidden the farmers to plant anything but cotton.

The Federal army of the South-west has commenced a general advance from Memphis and different parts of Mississippi.

Preparations are being made at New Orleans for an advance by land and water up the Mississippi. A Union meeting has been held at New Orleans. The correspondents of the New York journals describe the proceedings as enthusiastic.

General Butler is appointing overseers for the plantations which he has confiscated.

The Federal Commissioner Johnson, who was sent to New Orleans to investigate the condition of affairs, reports that persons in General Butler's command are growing rich upon the necessities of the helpless people of New Orleans, by extortions offensive to decency, and that the inhabitants of the city have been as much sinned against as sinning since General Butler's rule. Mr. Johnson denies that any money returned to the French consul was sent to Havannah for the Confederates.

SYMPATHY WITH LANCAHIRE.

The subscriptions for Lancashire have already reached 40,000 dols. The British residents are also raising a subscription.

The Chamber of Commerce of New York city has held a meeting to take measures for the relief of the distress in Lancashire. Some members thought that perhaps by inaugurating this movement, some national vanity and enmity to England might be attributed to the Chamber. The majority of the speakers deprecated conducting the movement in a way to obtain favour with one class in England, but urged that it should be based exclusively on the grounds of Christian charity. England was a great

customer of America for grain, and it was a plain case that it was America's duty to feed a brother nation in distress. Messrs. Grinswold and Co. offered a new ship of 1,800 tons burden to convey food to England, not only as a relief for the suffering poor, but as a token of respect for the Queen and her friendship for America. A committee was appointed to collect subscriptions in money and grain from all parts of the country. 26,000 dols. in cash was subscribed on the spot. A proposal to aid the French operatives was voted down.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Secretary of the Navy has informed the Chamber of Commerce that there is no authority to permit private vessels to cruise for privateers.

It is rumoured that the Alabama burnt another barque on the 19th November, in lat. 41, long. 66°16'.

It is understood that the Confederate Government are endeavouring to issue in this country, privately or otherwise, bonds bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.—*Daily News*.

We learn from a private letter that one of the steam-packets, plying between Liverpool and the Isle of Man, has been purchased by Confederate agents.

It is stated that one of the victims ordered to be executed at Palmyra, Missouri, on the 18th ult., was a man who had a wife and several children dependent altogether upon his daily labour for their support. A young man, knowing the condition of the family, offered himself as a substitute for the husband and father, was accepted, and was one of the ten who were shot.

FRANCE.

The Corps Législatif and the Senate will be opened on the 12th of January next. The debates are expected to be very animated. The chiefs of the party opposed to the temporal power of the Pope, and who are therefore at war with the policy at present pursued by the French Cabinet, intend to expound their views. Prince Napoleon will, it is said, make a speech on the subject in the Senate, and speeches are also expected from MM. Pietri and De Lavalette.

The Emperor has received Baron de Budberg, Russian Ambassador to France, in solemn audience, on which occasion he spoke as follows:—

I congratulate myself upon the friendly relations existing for six years between the Emperor and my Government, and which have the more chance of continuing, as they are due to the mutual sympathies and real interests of the two empires. I have been enabled to appreciate the straightforwardness of heart of your Sovereign, and have conceived for him a sincere friendship. You will find amongst us a hearty reception.

ITALY.

The Italian Parliament re-assembled on the 11th inst. All the new Ministers were present. Signor Farini officially announced the formation of the Cabinet and its programme, which was received with great marks of approval. The President of the Chamber of Deputies tendered his resignation to the Chamber, which however, declined to accept it. The Minister of Finance laid the provisional budget on the table of the House.

The following is a summary of the speech delivered by Signor Farini, the Prime Minister:—The Minister commenced by saying:—"We shall find in the assistance of Parliament the necessary authority for accomplishing the interior organisation of the country and for worthily representing Italy abroad. The administrative reforms will be based upon a system of decentralisation and the development of constitutional liberties. The first condition of liberty is the maintenance of public order." Signor Farini then eulogised the army, which had, under a painful trial, given an example of abnegation and discipline, and restored the authority of the laws. He continued:—"With unshaken confidence in the accomplishment of Italian unity we abstain from making promises which might not be followed by immediate effects, and await the course of events without illusions and without discouragement. We shall be careful to maintain alliances whilst preserving the independence of the country." Signor Farini concluded by making an appeal for Italian concord, which he said was personified in the King.

The Parliamentary Committee deputed to examine General La Marmora's report upon the brigandage in the Neapolitan provinces has communicated to the Chambers the conclusions at which it has arrived thereon. The committee states that the General's report is incomplete, and censure on several points the system pursued by the Government. They express their belief that the principal causes of brigandage are the insufficient confidence of the populations in the present state of things, and the stay of the French at Rome. The committee point out the measures necessary to inspire confidence and associate the country with the efforts of the Government, and conclude by proposing the appointment of a special committee to thoroughly investigate the matter and make a further report to the Chamber.

The *Gazetta di Torino* says:—"General La Marmora has addressed a letter to the new Cabinet, congratulating them on their entry into office, and stating his readiness to continue his services for the welfare of his country in his present position."

The Chamber of Deputies have resolved that the question of brigandage shall be discussed in a secret committee. M. Musolino's motion for an interpellation on the Roman question has been negatived by a large majority.

The Chamber of Deputies have voted a provisional Budget for three months by a large majority—185 to 27. It is thought the prorogation will take place

immediately. The next session will open in the middle of January.

Prince Murat has addressed another letter to the unknown prince who has been the channel of his previous communications with the Neapolitans. The Bonapartist pretender professes to have received information of the progress which his cause is making, and in exalting his own claims he is equally bitter upon the "Bourbon faction" and the "Piedmontese sect." By relying on moral force he is persuaded, he says, that the Two Sicilies will yet acknowledge him as their king.

A reactionary paper professing to advocate the entire independence of the Neapolitan provinces has been started in Naples. It preaches its doctrines, we learn, without attracting much attention from anybody, and without the slightest let or hindrance.

The leading newspapers of the Italian Democratic party deny in the most positive terms the story about a duel between Menotti Garibaldi and General Pallavicino.

PRUSSIA.

A recent article in the *New Prussian Gazette* would almost lead to the conclusion that the King has determined upon fresh reactionary measures in order to carry out his own peculiar ideas upon the subject of Divine right. The paper just named declares that his Majesty feels persuaded by the addresses which have been sent to him that he can count upon a large part of the nation, and that these adherents would rise at his summons to combat and vanquish the enemies of the Crown. As the *Nord* says, a more direct appeal to civil war could scarcely have been published. "We can only hope," it adds, "that for the sake of Prussia and its dynasty, King William is not quite so convinced as the vehement organ of the retrograde party pretends."

It is stated that a counter-agitation is being organised in Prussia, with the object of presenting addresses to the Chamber of Deputies congratulating them on their firm and resolute attitude.

GREECE.

The election of representatives to the Greek Chambers has terminated tranquilly. The national suffrage continues almost everywhere favourable to Prince Alfred, who, in the capital and provinces, has now received 70,000 votes. Perfect order is maintained.

A telegram from Athens says:—"The Hon. Mr. Elliott has arrived here on a special mission. It is asserted that England recommends King Ferdinand of Portugal as King of Greece, and that she will cede the Ionian Islands to Greece."

The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg*, in reply to an article of *La France*, says:—

We repeat that Russia was the first to take up her ground on the Greek question upon the treaty and protocol of 1830. No candidate for the throne of Greece has been put forward by Russia, even by the slightest hint. When public opinion mentioned certain names in connection with our country, we positively declared in the name of the Government that Russia had never favoured any candidate. Russia participates in Eastern affairs by reason of her interest in their progress, and from her sympathy for nationalities and co-religionists. Her main desire is the establishment of tranquillity based upon the conciliation of interests and the passions of political parties. As one of the means of achieving this end Russia recommends for the present the establishment of the balance of influence of the different European Powers.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

It is asserted that a collective note will be addressed to Prince Couza by the English, French, and Austrian representatives, demanding that the arms which were lately imported into that city, and confiscated by the Roumain Government, should be placed under their control.

MEXICO.

Advices received from Mexico, by way of Vera Cruz, report a fight between the French and the Mexicans, in which the latter were routed, but we have no means of judging of the magnitude of the engagement. General Forey has issued another proclamation, declaring that he had not come to fight the Mexicans but only the Government which degrades them.

The steamship *Floride* has arrived at St. Nazaire with General Lorencez on board, and brings news from Vera Cruz to the 16th ult. During the previous fortnight six vessels had arrived there, bringing altogether 4,000 men. The corps of General Berder had victoriously entered Jalapa, which was well defended by 2,500 Mexicans. A column of 2,000 men had taken possession of Medlin, which is an important position for obtaining provisions. Twelve companies of the 81st regiment of the line had embarked for Tampico, in order to occupy that place. The 3rd regiment of Zouaves were scouring the neighbourhood of Vera Cruz for oxen destined to complete the means of transport.

MADAGASCAR.

CORONATION OF KING RADAMA.

The *Moniteur* contains the following details respecting the coronation of King Radama of Madagascar:—

News from Madagascar, under date of October, acquaint us with the result of the embassy to King Radama, on the occasion of his coronation, with which the envoys of France and England were charged. The ceremony took place at Antananarivo, the capital of the island, on the 22nd of September. It was preceded by a solemn mass, during which the royal crown, presented by the Emperor Napoleon, was consecrated. The King

was thrown upon the Champ de Mars. In the centre of the sacred stone which supported the throne. The King wore a magnificent cloak given to him by the Emperor, and the Queen wore a mantle and a robe presented to her by the Empress. An immense crowd thronged the city and the neighbourhood of the Champ de Mars. In the evening there was a grand dinner and fireworks. The representatives of France and England met with the most cordial welcome, and they speak in the most flattering terms of the King and Queen. The best understanding has prevailed between them.

The *Moniteur* terminates its account by stating that a treaty of commerce, "upon the broadest basis, equally favourable to all nations," has been concluded, but that no allusion has been made to any cession of territory, as that might have occasioned "grave difficulties." The French embassy quitted Antananarivo on the 4th of October, and embarked on the 17th at Tamalava, after having remained more than two months in Madagascar.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 25.—Two expeditions have been sent from Ningpo against the rebels, and were successful. Kahding was captured by the allied forces on the 23rd inst.; and Fimgoa (?), the rebel stronghold, was carried by assault by the Imperialists on the 24th inst. The Mahomedans in Shensi have been routed, and peace is now restored in that province. The Duke of Lancaster has been totally wrecked off Formosa. The captain and crew were saved. An extensive business has been transacted in cotton. Ten thousand (?) tons of shipping have been chartered for the transport of the raw material from Hong Kong to Europe.

SHANGHAI, Nov. 3.—The Taepings are moving on Kahding, and are expected to attempt its recapture. It is rumoured that they are also marching to attack Sankow (? Hankow). An Imperial corps is advancing for the protection of this city.

JAPAN.

Intelligence from Japan states that the Tycoon had declared his inability to punish the perpetrators of the late murder, and has applied to the British Government for assistance. The position of foreigners was very precarious. The meeting alleged to have been recently held by the Daimios did not take place. A bloodless revolution is reported to be in progress, having among other objects the destruction of Jeddo. The whole country is in a most unsettled state.

The cholera has carried off a quarter of a million of the inhabitants of Jeddo.

AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, Oct. 25.—The Murray River and Sandhurst Railway was opened on the 15th inst. A meeting of the delegates from the colonies will be held in December next for the purpose of establishing a common tariff and free trade. The shipments of gold since the departure of the last mail exceed 100,000 ounces. Trade is dull. Exchange unaltered. Trade at Adelaide and Sydney very dull.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Prince Alfred has left Malta for Naples.

Mr. Bayard Taylor, the American traveller, is at present in charge of the American Legation at St. Petersburg.

THE MAIL-STEAMER AVON has been wrecked at Colon during a heavy gale. No lives were lost, and it was expected that the 178 packages of specie which were on board would be recovered.

ACTIVITY OF THE SLAVE TRADE.—The Athenian, from the West Coast of Africa, has brought over 400 bales of cotton, the largest single importation yet received in Liverpool from that region. Notwithstanding the presence of a numerous fleet of cruisers on the coast, the slave trade has again revived, and an active business was being carried on at Whydah. On the 29th of October, a large screw steamer shipped upwards of 920 slaves at Whydah, and got clear away to sea, although several British cruisers were keeping a sharp look-out after her. Other vessels are also reported to have escaped with cargoes of slaves.

LETTER FROM GARIBALDI TO PROFESSOR NELATON.—M. Nélaton has just received the following letter from General Garibaldi:—"Pisa, Dec. 5. My very Dear Friend,—I owe you a word of love and gratitude. Your appearance at Spezzia brought happiness to me, and, if any doubt of my recovery could ever have crossed my mind, in spite of the fraternal and learned care of the surgeons who attended me, at your interview, so eminently sympathetic, and at your words, so sublimely encouraging, it would have disappeared. I am much better since the abstraction of the hall, so ably effected by our compatriot, Professor Zanetti, and with the instruments which you had the kindness to send me. To-morrow a fixed bandage will be applied, and I hope to be able very soon to move about upon crutches. God bless you, as well as those virtuous men whose humane principles have honoured the eminent man of science and the benefactor.—Your devoted, G. GARIBALDI."

THE LIBERATED SLAVES IN AMERICA.

CONFISCATION OF SLAVES IN THE SOUTH.—General Butler has issued, under date of the 9th ult., an order sequestrating all the property in the district west of the Mississippi which the Federal troops have lately occupied. He alleges that the plantations and other property in that region are mainly

held by disloyal persons, and has determined to confiscate every acre and every slave in it of which the real or reputed owner will not take the oath of allegiance, or cannot clear himself of the imputation of treason. The district comprises the parishes of Assumption, St. John, St. Charles, Terrebonne, St. James, St. Mary, Lafayette, St. Martin, St. Landry, and Lafourche, and covers an area of 8,716 square miles. According to the annual report of 1861 it contained at that time a population of 51,236 whites and 73,379 slaves. The latter were valued at 38,040,470 dols.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION IN TENNESSEE.—The correspondent of the *New York Times* with General Rosenoranz's army, writes from Gallatin, Tennessee:—"The visible effects of the proclamation are not manifest to any appreciable extent in this vicinity, though further south in the State the people, since they have heard of our approach, have, I learn, sent many of their negroes into the interior of the South. As we advance there will be, no doubt, many hundreds run far into Dixie to prevent the application of the proclamation. The first of January is drawing near, and the pillars of the Slave Oligarchy are trembling in their shoes, as the root of the rebellion is at last about to be reached, and Government support of the 'institution' withdrawn." The *New York Times* correspondent, writing at a later date from Wilson County, Tennessee, says:—

This (Wilson) county is one of the wealthiest and best improved in the State. The farms, though they show that recently their cultivation has been much neglected, are well improved, fertile, and extensive. Heavy planters live all along the road, whose broad acres extend for miles, and whose aristocratic mansions show them to be the nabobs of the soil. Long rows of negro cabins are seen at short distances from the residences, indicating that the "institution" still flourishes here. These negroes, in large numbers, men, women, and children, come to the roadside and evince the most comical and unsophisticated manifestations of delight at our appearance. The older ones howl, and grin, and scrape, and throw themselves into all sorts of the most ludicrous attitudes. The younger ones dance and frisk about in high glee. "Gorramighy bless you, gemmen—may you live allers," exclaimed a delighted old darkey as we passed yesterday. At the same time he bowed himself almost to the ground. These poor creatures are about all the friends we have in this region. They most willingly give all the information they have. They express great fears that they will be sent to the interior of the South to avoid the enforcement of the proclamation in January.

A NEGRO EXPEDITION INTO GEORGIA.—The organisation of a regiment of black soldiers, under the direction of Brigadier-General Saxton, I am told, is progressing finely (says a correspondent of the *New York Herald*). Three companies of these South Carolina Volunteers, Captains Trowbridge, Jones, and Randolph, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Beard, Provost-Marshal under General Saxton, left Beaufort on the 13th instant, in the steamers Ben, Deford, and Darlington, going to Doboy Sound, Georgia, and remaining there a week, returning with 200,000 feet of the best Georgia pine lumber, sawed and ready for use. This was taken from Hawkins', Todd's, and Blue's mills, on the mainland, directly in face of the rebels, who gave the black soldiers an opportunity to test their pluck on shore, as they had previously on a tug-boat, where they fought with the advantage of a partial barricade. While most of the negroes were engaged in loading the steamers with lumber, the company of Captain Jones advanced on a reconnaissance, and were opened upon with musketry by the rebels from a position in ambush. The negroes deliberately returned the fire, and, drawn up in line of battle, kept up a fusillade, maintaining their ground until by the aid of the guns of the steamers and those of their convoy, the gunboat Madgie, the enemy was dislodged. Three of the coloured soldiers were wounded, one so seriously that his arm must be amputated. The officers of these men express the greatest confidence in their fighting qualities.

NEGROES UNDER FIRE IN MISSOURI.—The negro regiment had a fight last week with the guerillas in Bates county, Missouri, in which they displayed the most undaunted courage and fought with surprising bravery, killing fifteen of the enemy and wounding many more, and having eight of their own number killed.—*Atcheson (U.S.) Champion*.

THE FEAST FOR THE CONTRABANDS.—More than a thousand fugitives from bondage partook of the thanksgiving feast provided for the contrabands in the Twelfth-street Barracks, New York, on Thanksgiving-day, under the auspices of benevolent citizens and religious societies of both races. Among those present were Mrs. Stowe and the Rev. W. H. Channing. The dining-hall was adorned with garlands and portraits of eminent friends of freedom. After dinner a prayer was made by a venerable contraband, known among his people as "John the Baptist," and the song, "Go Down, Moses," long a favourite melody at the secret meetings of the Southern slaves, was sung. Afterwards, speeches were made by Senator Pomeroy, Rev. Mr. Mitchell, and Bishop Paine, of the Coloured Methodist Church.—*New York Tribune*.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1862.

AMERICA.

(Per Jura, vid Cape Race.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 8, Evening.

An engagement has occurred at Hartsville, Tennessee, between the Federal advance force from

Nashville and the Confederates under General Morgan. Colonel Moore's Federal brigade was repulsed several times and finally captured. General Morgan afterwards attacked the Federals at Gallatin, but was repulsed with heavy loss.

Both the Federal and Confederate armies at Fredericksburg are actively engaged in fortifying at Fredericksburg.

The Southern journals state that a fleet of 20 Federal vessels sailed from Hilton on the 5th inst. for Georgetown or Wilmington. Several Federal vessels had passed Charleston Harbour. It was supposed that they were going to assist in attacking Mobile.

The same journals assert that 30,000 Federals are at Suffolk, preparing to move against Petersburg, while a Federal force at Newbern, North Carolina, will operate simultaneously against Weldon.

The Federals occupy Granada, Mississippi.

Large subscriptions for the Lancashire Distress Fund continue to pour in.

Money easy. Gold, 32 premium. Exchange on London, bankers' bills, 146.

ITALY.

TURIN, Tuesday Night.

In a secret sitting of the Cabinet to-day, a special commission was named to proceed to Naples to inquire into the causes of brigandage, with a view to the proposition of a remedy.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 16.

General Mouravieff, the Minister of the Imperial Domains, has been dismissed. His successor has not yet been appointed.

On Saturday last the Bank of Russia paid 24 million roubles in specie in exchange for notes.

THE GREEK QUESTION.

ATHENS, Dec. 16.

The representatives of the three Powers have signed a note excluding the members of their respective Royal families. The plebiscite is over. Of 10,127 votes given here, 9,889 were for Alfred.

LONDON, Dec. 16.

Don Fernando has refused to become a candidate for the throne of Greece.

BERNE, Dec. 16.

The Federal Council has received a circular-note of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, which has also been forwarded to the other Governments of Europe. In this communication M. Drouyn de l'Huys declares that as the protesting Powers of Greece have come to a common understanding, they will not delay the recommendation of a candidate to the Greek nation.

PARIS, Dec. 16.

The Paris papers of this evening state that the English Government is making great efforts to induce King Ferdinand of Portugal to accept the throne of Greece.

MR. CORDEN ON LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.—Mr. Corden, at the request of the inhabitants of Midhurst, delivered an address to them yesterday on the Lancashire distress. He spoke of the distress as having been caused by the national policy of recognising blockades in time of war, and argued therefrom that its relief was a national duty. The extent of the distress he illustrated by saying that it was equal to what would be produced if the whole of the agricultural labourers in eight southern counties were suddenly thrown out of employment, and the income of the farmers stopped. He showed that the manufacturers were doing their duty, and said his only fear was that the sacrifices they were now making would cripple them when they should begin work again.

THE REMAINS OF THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT.—The new royal mausoleum in Frogmore-gardens will be consecrated at about two o'clock to-day. The members of the royal household will attend, and the choir of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, will assist at the ceremony. The final removal of the remains of his late Royal Highness to the mausoleum will take place at an early hour to-morrow morning.

Garibaldi has been invited to pay a visit to Naples when his wound is healed, and fifty-three Neapolitan ladies have undertaken to pay all the expenses of the General and his suite as long as they stay.

The health of the King of Denmark is reported to be in a condition which gives some ground for serious alarm. The King has no children, and his heir presumptive is the father of the Princess Alexandra, now affianced to our Prince of Wales.

A letter from Turin, published in the *Sicile*, says that Prince Murat's recent epistle to his friend, the Invisible Prince, has been reproduced by all the Italian papers, but that it has attracted not the slightest attention.

Horace Vernet, who was believed to be on the very point of death, is, we are glad to say, unexpectedly rallying, and it is thought possible that he may be restored to health.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very small supply of English wheat was received fresh up to this morning's market, in poor condition. Good and fine dry parcels moved off steadily, at full prices; otherwise, the trade was dull, on former terms. With foreign wheat, the market was well supplied. In most descriptions a moderate retail business was transacted, and the quotations were fairly supported. Floating cargoes of grain were in moderate request, at late rates. Good and fine malting barley maintained its value; but other kinds met with a dull inquiry, at previous currencies. Malt changed hands to a limited extent, at late rates.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“W. Logan.”—We are obliged, but the news has come too late for use.

“N. R.”—The Mansion House Committee are maturing arrangements for providing a Christmas dinner for the distressed operatives of Lancashire.

“G. N. Clutton.”—It is generally considered, we believe, that the incumbent has a discretion as to using that portion of the Burial Service which is to be read in the church; but that this discretion is limited to cases of apprehended danger from infection. The most obvious mode of raising the question appears to be to postpone the burial, and apply to the Queen's Bench for a *mandamus*.

An “Old Reader” writes: “Can you, or any one of your lawyer-readers, inform me what difference there is between the directors of the Bank of Deposit and the directors of the late British Bank as to their liability? I cannot make out any real difference—perhaps it is my ignorance.”

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1862.

SUMMARY.

THERE have been rumours of possible Ministerial changes before the meeting of Parliament, including the resignation of Sir George Grey and Sir Charles Wood. The former undertook with reluctance the duties of the Home-office, and the latter has made himself peculiarly obnoxious to Manchester and the East Indians. Sir Charles may, it is thought, be succeeded by the Duke of Argyll, or Earl Granville. The *Record* rejoices in the possible retirement of the Duke of Newcastle from the Colonial-office. His Grace is pronounced a “dangerous” man, because he sanctioned the appointment of the African bishops, and agreed to the regulations “by which the rights of the Crown in Canada, and the Royal supremacy over causes ecclesiastical, are, for the first time since the Reformation, placed under the feet of a colonial provincial synod of ecclesiastics.” Some people are apt to regard the *Record's* condemnation as a decided compliment. More reliable than these floating reports is the statement that a considerable reduction is to be effected in the national expenditure, arising from administrative reforms in the army carried out in connexion with the staff in Ireland and the military force in the colonies. Surely there is room for the pruning knife in the costly English staff? With 150,000 volunteers there can hardly be need of so large an army as is now maintained at home.

Sir George Grey has announced to a deputation from the magistrates of the City, who have waited upon him to recommend a recurrence to transportation in the case of hardened criminals, that a Commission composed of members of both Houses of Parliament will be forthwith issued to inquire into the subject of penal discipline with a view to alterations in the present system. The Home Secretary pointed out some of the difficulties in the way of a re-umption of transportation on an enlarged scale, such as the refusal of the colonies to receive our incorrigibles, and the impossibility of sending away criminals under short sentences, and stated that since 1857, about 2,000 criminals had been deported to Western Australia. There is now a certain prospect that the whole subject of our convict system will be thoroughly considered. According to the Home Secretary, few of the garotte outrages have been perpetrated by tickets-of-leave, but he assured the deputation that Government had taken measures to prevent their recurrence. The present danger to the public seems to be the carrying of firearms by the

panic-stricken, rather than the assaults of convicted felons.

The first letter from our special correspondent in Lancashire contains a full and interesting survey of the distressed districts, which, in conjunction with the monthly report of the Central Committee, conveys a clear idea of present exigencies, and shows that even the princely sums subscribed will not exceed the requirements of a destitute population of 450,000 souls. Amongst the obstacles to a general resumption of work, not the least is the very bad quality and condition of the East-Indian cotton, the use of which is greatly disliked by operatives and manufacturers.

Our columns bear witness to the awakening feeling of the British people as to the character and aims of the new Slave Power. We publish a timely address, signed by various ministers and others, containing some weighty counsels on the subject, and information relative to the active operations of the newly-formed Emancipation Society. The Message of President Lincoln can hardly fail to give a great impulse to this necessary movement.

The war news from America relates chiefly to the departure of the naval expeditions, including that under General Banks, to operate, it is supposed, the rear or flank of the Confederate army in Virginia, while a large Northern force has been collected at Suffolk to move upon Petersburg. In the far West the Federals are sweeping their antagonists before them, and one column has penetrated as far South as Granada, Mississippi. Further intelligence has come to hand showing the efficiency of the negro regiments as auxiliaries to the Federal armies.

The New York news contains one pleasing item which ought to kindle a blush of shame on the cheek of the venomous correspondent of the *Times* in that city. A movement has been inaugurated for sending relief to the Lancashire operatives, on the ground that it is the duty of America “to feed a brother nation in distress,” and “as a token of respect to Queen Victoria.” Large sums have been subscribed, and a new ship of large burthen is to be sent across the Atlantic filled with grain. This benevolent scheme may surely be accepted as a more accurate expression of the real feeling of our trans-Atlantic cousins than the irresponsible effusions of sensation newspapers.

The Greeks have been recommended by France and England, if not by Russia, to choose for their head King Ferdinand, husband of the late Queen of Portugal, and father of the present King. As a salve for their disappointment in not getting Prince Alfred, they are assured that England is ready to surrender to them, with the consent of the other protecting Powers, the sovereignty of the Ionian Islands, as soon as they have a stable Government. Ferdinand is a Coburg, and showed some capacity and skill in his two years' rule at Lisbon, but he is by no means ambitious of accepting the responsibility of governing so restless a people as the Greeks, and is said to have positively refused the honour. The Greeks have, however, the game in their own hands; and if they choose to exercise freely the right that has been accorded to them only in name, the Great Powers could hardly actively interpose. But in these days, when non-intervention is so much applauded as a European maxim, our Government have furnished a bad and dangerous precedent for meddling in the affairs of other nations. Any way, the English concession can hardly be withdrawn.

While Vice-Admiral Hope is carrying on active warfare against the Taepings, it is announced at a cosy meeting of the Geographical Society in London that Mr. Lay, the agent of the Imperial dynasty, is about proceeding to China, under the sanction of our Government, with a fleet of gunboats, to be commanded by Capt. Sherard Osbourne, “to suppress the Taeping rebellion”—that is, to drive the insurgents further inland, and create new centres of anarchy. If the Taepings are to be put down, why not, also, the half-dozen other rebellions that rage in that distracted country? As we have more than once urged, it is impossible to say where this dangerous system of intervention in China—which accepts the principle that we are to restore the Tartar rule, over four hundred million of souls—will end. And this extraordinary expedition goes out, we grieve to say, with the public approval of Mr. Gladstone, though Parliament has never been consulted on the subject, and though we may any day be involved in hostilities with the Japanese.

The King of Madagascar has been crowned with much ceremony, and, if we are to believe the *Moniteur*, French agents bore the most conspicuous part in the pageant, and Radama and his court are so Gallicised that they would be ready to accept a French Protectorate if the Emperor Napoleon were willing to offer it. This is an old story, which more authentic news has sufficiently exploded. The grapes are sour. The

Jesuits who forged a letter in the name of King Radama would not be likely to stickle at a fictitious account of his coronation.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

THE anxiously expected “Message to Congress” has been brought hither by the Persia. At the time we write, nothing more than the telegrams in which its contents have been summarised are accessible to us. The outline, however, will suffice to commend Mr. Lincoln to the respect of all in this country who really desire the extinction of slavery. The President has, at length, manfully, but not without sagacity and caution, grappled with the accursed system, and means to put forth the whole force of his official position to wrestle a throw with it, and, if possible, put a period to its hated existence. He seems sanguine of success—he even hopes, by destroying slavery, to restore the Union. He energetically calls upon Congress to assist him in his gigantic effort. May he realise the end he contemplates!

We have heard quite enough from a portion of the New York press, echoed, we blush to admit, by leading journals on this side of the Atlantic, in abuse of the Abolitionists, as “*Exterminators*.” We have no means of judging, at present, how far the President's proposals will meet with acceptance from the Republican party—but, assuredly, the plan does not exhibit a single feature which can be taken to justify the denunciations so freely heaped upon his head, as seeking to promote a servile insurrection. Whatever may be said of its feasibility, of which he is in a far better position to judge than we, he has said no more than he was entitled to say, when he described it as “peaceful, generous, and just.”

The following *precis* will give as clear an account of these emancipation proposals, as the somewhat scanty materials within reach will admit of. The President recommends the Federal Congress to propose, with the concurrence of two-thirds of both Houses, to the Legislatures or Conventions of the several States, amendments of the Federal Constitution to this effect—That every slave-holding State which at any time shall abolish slavery before A.D. 1,900, shall be entitled to receive from the President, United States' bonds, bearing interest, for each slave known to have been in the State at the taking of the last census—the bonds to be delivered on the completion of the emancipation, or, if the emancipation be gradual, by proportional instalments. Any State introducing or tolerating slavery after receiving such bonds, to refund them with interest. Meanwhile, Congress is recommended to decide that all slaves who have acquired freedom by the chances of war during the continuance of the rebellion shall be for ever free—loyal owners, however, to receive compensation for their loss.

The plan is not pressed as a *sine quâ non*. The restoration of national authority, that is, the unconditional submission of the South, would be accepted without its adoption. Nor is the war, or the Emancipation Proclamation, to be stayed because of the recommendation of this plan, “but its timely adoption,” says Mr. Lincoln, “would, no doubt, bring restoration, and thereby stay these proceedings.” We are to look upon the present proposal, therefore, as offering an alternative of the late proclamation. States, now in rebellion, or in partial rebellion, against Federal authority, may make their peace with the United States' Government before the first day of January next, on terms which will admit of their retaining slave institutions up to A.D. 1900, and of their receiving compensation for every slave (registered in the last census) who may be manumitted between the present and that somewhat distant date—but as we understand it, if this proposal shall not have been accepted before New Year's day next, then the Emancipation Proclamation will come into force, and the slaves of every State not being then represented in Congress will be declared confiscated, and, so far as the Federal authority extends, free.

Enormous as the sum total of compensation would be, if all the Slave States should accede to this proposal, it would probably amount to less than will be inevitably swallowed up by two or three years' more war. It would be true economy to give liberally whatever the acceptance of these terms might require, rather than attempt by further hostilities to subjugate the South by force. The plan offers grace to the rebel slave-owners such as they have by no means deserved. The alternative it places before them is considerate and even generous, especially when their intemperate haste to break away from the Union, and their subsequent violence, have been taken into account. True, they are required to part with their cherished social institution—but ample time is given them for making necessary

arrangements, and full compensation tendered them for the loss which thereby they will sustain. Bygones are to be bygones—offences are to be condoned—and calculations of the sums due for emancipated slaves are to be based, not upon the number now in possession, diminished as in most cases it must be by the war, but by the number recorded as having been owned at the taking of the last census. If a restoration of the Union be possible, it will be so only on some such basis as is here recommended.

But will the Southerners accede to these proposals? This is a question on which, as the time is very near at hand when they must signify their intention, it will be more prudent to leave the event to answer. But, if they do not, Europe will surely get from their non-compliance, an unmistakable view of the true ground of their quarrel. It is not for the preservation of their human property that they will continue in arms—for this they may now exchange, at leisure too, for its full worth in property of a less questionable kind. It will be apparent that it is the domination attached to their possessions that they cannot bear to surrender—with all the false but self-adulatory sentiments which that domination has fostered. It is for a plan of social life abhorrent to all other civilised peoples that the Southerners will persist in this war, if they eventually decide on persistence—and Europe will know that the terrible inconveniences she has been called upon to endure, are thrust upon her, not so much that the Confederates may gain freedom and independence, but that they may hold for ever in hopeless servitude three or four millions of the coloured race. Should this conviction come to be established by the course of facts, we suspect that sympathy with the South will very speedily be at an end. Hitherto, the quarrel has been supposed to involve nothing on either side that touched the question of Slavery. Henceforth, it cannot be successfully so misrepresented. The issue, as Mr. Lincoln puts it, is Emancipation or Slavery—and, should Congress happily approve of this mode of shaping the dispute, there will be no room for Englishmen to hesitate which of the belligerents ought to have their heartiest good wishes.

THE NEW ITALIAN MINISTRY.

THE reputation of some statesmen, such as the late Sir Robert Peel, is exalted by their surrender of power; others fall from office into universal contempt. Signor Rattazzi pre-eminently belongs to the latter class. The late Prime Minister of Italy, who came into power under French auspices, has, since the unhappy incident of Aspromonte, been assiduously engaged in digging his own grave. That event gave him the opportunity of inaugurating a truly national policy. He chose, instead, to pursue his own personal aims. Subservience to France, repeated violations of the law, delay in calling Parliament together, the cruel treatment of the illustrious captive of Spezia, intrigues to gain a majority, unwarrantable disclosures in Parliament, and the attempt to persuade his Sovereign to dissolve the Chamber rather than dismiss his Ministers—these and other political crimes brought upon Signor Rattazzi a well-merited fate. He had not even the courage to await the formal condemnation of Parliament, but resigned amid general satisfaction. His downfall marks the close of a melancholy epoch of modern Italian history, in which intrigue was substituted for statesmanship, vain illusions for national policy, and Napoleonic devices and arbitrary expedients for regular constitutional Government.

The instincts and patriotism of King and Parliament have at length arrested Italy in the dangerous course upon which she had embarked under Rattazzi's pilotage. By their co-operation and moderation a genuine Italian Ministry has been formed under Farini, which, beyond even that of Cavour, commands the respect and sympathy of the entire nation. Composed to a considerable extent of the friends of Ricasoli, it embraces some of the other leading members of the Parliamentary majority. The new Premier was a minister in the various Cabinets formed by the late Count Cavour, and exhibited the highest qualities in his administration of the Romagna, though his shattered health will prevent him from taking a very active part in public affairs. He is, however, supported by Peruzzi, a man of strong intellect and stronger will, who has accepted the responsible post of Minister of the Interior, and has appointed Spaventa, one of Poerio's fellow-prisoners, and the most successful of Neapolitan administrators, as his Secretary-General. The new Foreign Minister, Count Pasolini, is a statesman of the Ricasoli stamp, to whom the country accords universal confidence arising from his spotless character and sturdy independence. Minghetti, the new Finance

Minister, was a favourite political pupil of Cavour, and Menabrea and Della Rovere acquired great distinction under Ricasoli. The least known member of the new Cabinet in political life, is Amari, the Minister of Public Instruction, a Sicilian, and one of the most learned Italians of the day.

The programme of policy announced by Signor Farini in Parliament is simple, unpretending, but thoroughly national. Its key-note is to be found in his declaration that the new Government "seek their authority in the support of Parliament," and to "build up freedom on public order and security." The Premier fully recognises the altered state of affairs, and of public opinion which desires to assure "the conquests and the advantages of unity, and to give an impulse to external organisation." "We propose," he says, "to respond to this feeling by scrupulously studying the wants and interests of the people, by carrying out the administrative reforms suggested by experience upon the basis of a large decentralisation; and finally, by giving an intelligent direction to the development of constitutional liberty in every part of the state organisation." While existing alliances are to be kept up, the national independence is nevertheless to be maintained,—an allusion to France, which is significant of the modified relations of Italy. The idea of Italian unity is not surrendered, but, says Signor Farini, "We believe we are responding to a general sentiment of dignity in refraining from promises not to be followed by prompt results, and we obtain from this same belief the right to declare to Italy that she must await the accomplishment of the course of events without illusion and without mistrust."

This modest programme has been received with great favour. The people of Italy are tired of idle promises and threats of aggression which only burden the finances, and encourage foreign intrigue. As Piedmont worked out by patient experiment the idea of Italian freedom, the new Ministry have to secure by wise administration the fruits of Italian unity. This policy is safe as it is wise. It admits of a reduction of those huge armaments which impoverish the country, and necessitates those internal improvements which are the best bond of union. Europe, which has so long feared the outbreak of a general war from the too eager ambition of Italy, will now the more heartily applaud the application of those internal reforms which will give strength and prosperity at home and secure respect abroad.

The safety of the new course upon which Italy has entered is attested by the outcry of French reactionary journals at the recent changes. The Government which have resolved to maintain the "complete independence" of the nation have nothing to ask of either France or Austria. They have no favours to seek from the Emperor of the French, and have begun resolutely to grapple with the brigandage difficulty in Naples without again inviting the aid of a treacherous patron who could overcome it with a word. Prince Murat's renewed intrigues in the Southern Kingdom are to be met, not by coercion, but by the presence of the King himself in Naples, and a series of social reforms. While *La France* is ventilating anew the theory of an Italian confederation or, at least, of a divided Italy, Victor Emmanuel and his Government seem seriously bent upon uniting the Peninsula into one commonwealth by the strong bond of common interests, and under the ægis of a liberal constitution. Against such a policy M. Drouyn de Lhuys will fulminate, and his master intrigue, in vain.

CHRISTMASTIDE.

WHAT is it that gives such a charm to this holiday season, above that of all others? Why is it that we wish one another "a merry Christmas"? No doubt, tradition, even where its sources are lost in the obscurity of the past, lends something of its colour to the feelings with which we hail the advent of this most welcome and most universally observed of the old ecclesiastical festivals. There may be but few, indeed, who know anything of the roystering modes in which Christmastide was wont to be celebrated in mediæval times—and even of those few there will be but one here and there whose regard for the season is sensibly heightened by his knowledge. But the general tone which pervaded and characterised the customs with which our forefathers honoured this festival, has come down to us through successive generations, and gives a bright and glad hue to our anticipations of it, and to our modes of celebrating it, shedding upon it and upon them a somewhat subdued but still unchanged radiance, even though the particular customs which it glanced upon of yore are now altogether forgotten. For several centuries, and, with trifling exceptions, throughout the entire range of Christendom, every one has been trained from early infancy to associate

the Christmas season with a brief but exhilarating effervescence of the spirits, and immemorial and uninterrupted "use" has so closely approximated to a "second nature," that to be obliged to let the holiday pass over unobserved would be felt by most to be real and great privation.

We remember having once spent a Christmas-day in Scotland, where it is not customary to show any special regard for it. Nature, assuredly, invited one to be game. A crisp frost, a bracing atmosphere, an unclouded sky, snow-crowned hills, and that wonderful clearness and stillness and brightness which give to some of our winter days such magical power to raise the spirits, seemed to challenge everybody to lay down for awhile his burden of care, and give way to innocent gaiety of heart. And to us, we confess, the absence of every feature whereby in England the day is segregated from the common herd of days—the tradesman in his shop, the peasant in the field, the ordinary attire, traffic and labour—struck a damp down deep into our soul. It was as though we had been cheated of an inalienable right. A yearning that could not be satisfied troubled us from morning till night. We tried to be merry in our heart, as, seated upon the roof of the mail coach, we were born along by four mettlesome horses, and gazed, right and left of us, upon bewitching scenery—but it would not do. Custom was too strong for us—we felt out of place. Our "heart" was not "in the Highlands," albeit we were there. The very laughter of Nature—and she laughed out most merrily all that day—appeared to mock us. And, so strong is traditional feeling and habit that we retired to rest with a vague, and, of course, irrational, sense of having desecrated the day.

Curious it is that where, as in our own case, no idea of sanctity is attached to this ecclesiastical festival, it should nevertheless awaken a sense of obligation little less than sacred. Yet so it is. A mirthful observance of Christmas, in this country at least, presents itself rather in the light of duty than privilege. And wherever the good old family customs remain in force, one is impelled by an influence of which he can hardly give an intelligible account, to recognise it as such. They whose spirits have not been more elastic, and whose hearts have not been brighter during Christmastide than usual, are very commonly sensible of a shady self-dissatisfaction resembling that which comes over them when they have left undone that which they ought to have done. Doubtless, there are myriads of cases in which this self-dissatisfaction cannot be felt, and would be misplaced even if it could—for to how many, alas, does the returning season bring with it gloomy memories, or lead away the thoughts and sympathies to buried expectations! Nevertheless, there is something real, something true, something deserving of notice, in the remorseful reflections which haunt one when, under ordinary circumstances, he finds himself incapable of entering into the domestic festivities of the Christmas. It is generally an inauspicious indication. It points to causes which cannot be looked back upon with pleasure. Certainly, laughter is not virtue—but he who has come to be unable to laugh with hearty abandon must have a good store of reminiscences hidden up within him which do him but little honour. The loss of all relish for mirth is a symptom of disease either of body or of mind—and where it is the result of the latter, it will be found to be due, in most cases, rather to evils engendered within, than to troubles that have come from without.

The peculiar charm of Christmastide appears to us to consist in the invitation it addresses to us to be young again—to live a few brief moments, generally too brief, in the hilarious enjoyment of earlier sensations. The gathering of families round the same hearth, and the mingling together of two or even three generations, commonly has the effect of awakening in the spirit of the elder members a sense of rejuvenescence. Most people's sunniest recollections of childhood and home are drawn from these celebrations—and, in their more staid and graver days, the festival which gives a backward impulse to their thoughts and feelings, carrying them once more into the period of their youth, and by subtle associations, linking together more closely their evening and their dawn, reproduces in them, for the time being, the susceptibilities and sympathies, the elasticity and exhilaration, which, during the greater portion of the year, belong far more to memory than to experience. And this temporary transmigration of the soul from a later to an earlier period of time, and from the inner and somewhat darkened centre of its own consciousness, to the outer and generally lighter horizon which imagination identifies with the yet rising generation, is not only a high order of enjoyment, but it is

also a real benefit. Oh, it is pleasant to be able, though only for a few fleeting hours, to be young again with the young—to hold communion with them in their freshness of being, in their absence of care, in their buoyancy of spirits, in their wholeness of heart, in their irrepressible enthusiasm, and in their facile because natural gaiety. It is pleasant and profitable too both to manhood and to youth to have this commingling of soul in festive hilarity to which the one contributes unwonted dignity and the other imparts a vivacious energy. And, we believe, it is mainly because Christmastide is the recognised season for the domestic unreserve which makes this kind of enjoyment possible, that its attractiveness as a holiday scarcely ever abates, even when weight of years has largely destroyed the spring of everyday life.

Something also is due to the season. A light is never more welcome than when kindled in pitchy darkness. They can best appreciate the stability and security of *terra firma* whose occupation is on the deep. A mere hillock is prized as a relief by the traveller over boundless plains, and a spot of verdure in the desert is like the garden of Paradise. It is fortunate that our most charming holiday occurs in winter. From early in November to late in February is, so far as climate can make it such, a dreary spell of time in this sea-girt isle. Dampness and dimness, foggy days and long nights, constitute the staple of the weather—enlivened now and then with a hard frost for which we are never prepared, or with a fall of snow which never lies long enough on the ground to admit of sleighing. A transit through four months of meteoric dinginess, generally as depressing as it is disagreeable, would be a monotonous affair but for Christmastide. The holiday comes upon one like those small areas of daylight which give a momentary sensation of delight to railway travellers in a long tunnel. It is essentially an in-door festival, and it happily occurs about the middle of the in-door season. It is valued not only for itself, but also for the contrast it presents to the prevailing sombre tint of life throughout that period of the year. We approach it as the wayworn and solitary pedestrian does the glimmering window which suggests rest and refreshment to him on his way, after nightfall, over the bleak moor—and we pass away from it as, after hospitable entertainment, he does, with a manlier heart to face remaining difficulties, and a pleasant anticipation of "the good time coming." We know not how Christmas is enjoyed in the Australias, where it overtakes society at Midsummer—but we fancy that while its home-attractiveness remains, it must lose some of its zest in consequence of the season at which it is celebrated.

There is a further and much higher charm about Christmastide in that it stimulates and exercises the kindlier and more charitable feelings of humanity. It is a time of giving as well as of enjoying. It opens hearts to the needy, and persuades even the parsimonious to taste the pleasures of benevolence. But on this feature we need scarcely dilate, in presence of that ever-swelling stream of liberality which is now flowing towards the cotton districts of the North. One word only. Let Christmas be kept according to custom. Let not the poor of our own neighbourhoods be disappointed of their usual gifts, merely because want from afar has claimed our attention. And so, dear reader, having said our say, and uttered our exhortation, suffer us to dismiss you to something more to your mind with heartiest wishes that you may enjoy "a merry Christmas, and a happy new year."

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Manchester, December 15, 1862.

The readers of the *Nonconformist* have already had their attention directed to the distress in Lancashire, and they have from week to week noticed the changes in the figures given in Mr. Farnall's reports. Those reports have shown in some degree how the distress has increased, and they give a general idea of its present extent. But it is not possible for figures to give anything like an adequate notion of the extent of the distress, or of the amount of relief with which that distress is being met. It is not till we come in personal contact with the sufferers, and hear from their own lips, or from the lips of some trustworthy companion, the past history of family after family, and compare that past with the present, that we learn how great the change is which has come upon these Lancashire poor. And the more one goes amongst these operatives, and the better one knows them, the greater is the respect and esteem with which they are regarded. Those who are at all familiar with the social history of our

country during the last half-century do not need being more than reminded that in Lancashire there are signs which show that here progress has been rapid indeed. Comparing the antagonisms which existed between one class and another in the early part of the present century with the close intermingling of all classes which is apparent here now, and remembering how lately that famous dying speech of Justice Talfourd was spoken, one can well congratulate himself and those about him with the fact that the world has grown better of late, and that sympathy between class and class has been, and still is being, manifested as much as it would have pleased the dying judge to have seen. I do not think it is at all necessary to enlarge upon those obvious signs of the change—the silent mills, the lighter cloud canopies which hang over each distress-touched town, and the other sights which, easily seen in ordinary times, are not seen now at all. These things have been pointed out so often that I ought to apologise for even alluding to them, but the allusion serves to introduce the topic in which I, as well as all Englishmen and Englishwomen, feel great interest.

In this letter I will try to give a general, though necessarily brief, glance at the whole district, and then say just a little about Manchester, the heart and core of that district. I find that the population of the whole of those towns in which the distress exists is estimated at about 2,000,000, and it is stated that about one-fourth of that number, or more, is directly affected by the dearth of cotton. In the returns which have been sent in to the Manchester Central Committee, the total of 472,519 operatives is made up of 236,379 altogether unemployed, 159,074 working short time, and 77,066 working full time. Just now these operatives are losing wages to the amount of about 163,000*l.* weekly, and the reader need only ponder upon these figures an instant to see that the abstraction of that amount weekly from the incomes of the tradespeople who supplied the physical and other wants of the operatives, must lead to an amount of distress which has as yet been scarcely recognised, but which will, ere long, so show itself as to draw to it the general attention. Those who read Lord Derby's late Manchester speech will remember that he states that in seven savings banks the amount of withdrawals of deposits over the ordinary average to the amount of 71,113*l.* And this, too, was only up to June last, a date at which the pressure had scarcely commenced. Now it is not possible to get up the amounts of withdrawals, for the banks, in their own interests, decline to afford the information. To these withdrawals there must be added the amounts which have been withdrawn from building societies, from co-operative associations, and from the many other schemes of investing his savings which have found favour with the steady Lancashire operative; and even when this is done only a faint notion could be derived of the losses which these operatives have sustained. Visits to the homes show what other losses have been suffered. Empty houses, which were once stocked with furniture; ill-covered beds, where once they were well-covered; and ill-clothed bodies, which have not known for long what were hunger and cold, but which know now too well. All these things have to be remembered, with the antipathy which those who suffer them have shown to have their distress paraded; and with them should be remembered, too, the danger of these people being so overcome by the disaster which has got hold of them, as to never recover from it. This evil can only be avoided by all Englishmen doing what they have been doing hitherto,—taking care that the funds for the relief of this distress shall be as large as the occasion requires. Looking at Mr. Farnall's last report, I find that there were some 278,553 persons receiving parochial relief in the twenty-seven unions which he takes as comprising the area of the distress. These numbers show an increase of 9,584 on the preceding week, an increase of 69,932 in about five weeks, and an increase of 212,527 on the corresponding week of last year. Looking at what the relief committees are doing, I find that there is the same rapid increase in the numbers of persons falling upon them for the means of subsistence. These committees are at present relieving about 340,000 persons, nearly half of whom are also partially relieved by the Board of Guardians, whilst more than half are wholly relieved by the committees. The present cost of the relief afforded by the two agencies is about 40,000*l.* a week, and this may be said to come, half of it from the rates, and half from the voluntary subscriptions which have so freely flowed in from all quarters, and which are still needed. It must be remembered that the figures given by the Board of Guardians, and those given by the relief committees, even when added together, do not show nearly so large a total

as they would do if all who are touched by this distress were accounted for in their returns. There are still vast numbers who are unaccounted for, but who are becoming mastered by these hard times as to fall upon the one or other of the relief schemes at the rate of about 10,000 weekly. Many of these are no doubt helped from private sources, and it is known that numbers of others are still struggling against the tide which has overwhelmed so many, and which will as surely overwhelm them. I am aware that this glance at the distress generally is incomplete, but it may be sufficient for the present, and will surely explain the necessity there is that the efforts of all kinds which have been put forth to meet the distress should still be continued. I do not think it would be right to pass from this general view without giving a well-merited word of praise to those who have had the superintendence of the admirable organisation which now gathers the one hundred or more local relief committees under its supervision, and provides that no one of them shall be short of the needed funds. I doubt whether it would be possible to institute so large and so efficient an organisation in any part of the land away from the seats of our manufacturing industry.

I have spent many days lately in Manchester, and have been very much astonished to find how numerous are the schemes at work for the relief of the distress, of which no cognisance is taken by the metropolis or by the committees. The city, though showing many signs that its ordinary business has almost all passed away, still manifests a vast amount of activity in other ways. All classes are alike eager in the relief work. Millowners, and other large employers of labour, are actively at work on relief committees, and many warehousemen and shopmen are occupying their leisure time in one or other of the many schemes of helping their poorer neighbours. Great as I know the interest to have been which many of the Lancashire employers of labour took in the mental and moral welfare of those whom they employed, I find that the distress has given great impetus to the efforts previously made, and has led to the development of many schemes which will not only do good now, but which will do greater good still when this dark cloud passes, and all classes shall have time to ponder the lessons which the crisis ought to teach. The attacks which from time to time have been made upon the millowners have not been quite deserved, and I find that many smart rather because the attack renders it necessary that they should make their benevolence public, than because they had done too little before. To those who come down here it is obvious that a great amount of help has been bestowed which, had it been properly considered, would have saved a large and influential class from much unmerited abuse. Many cases could be added to those mentioned recently by Lord Derby, of people who have acted with a nobleness which nothing but a high Christian motive could have prompted, and yet the men who have so acted, because they have done their good silently, have been suspected of a want of charity exceedingly base. Not only are these charitable efforts put forth to provide food and clothing, but a great deal is being done in finding mental occupation and enjoyment for the unemployed. The plan at work in the sewing-schools is now universally known, and has proved of vast importance. Then there are arising day and night-schools for men. I have seen old men with spectacles astride their nose hard at work mastering the mysteries of the alphabet, and I have seen others of mature age submitting to what I looked upon as being the irksome discipline of a school with a docility and a teachableness which could not well be surpassed. The great channel through which help flows to the poor operatives of Manchester and Salford, apart from the Poor-law machinery, is the channel opened by the District Provident Society. This society has been in existence since 1833, and has, therefore, only enlarged its operations so as to meet the necessities of to-day. The various district committees which have been formed in different parts of the Manchester townships, whilst they collect funds for themselves, yet get their chief aid from the District Provident Society. Then this society makes a capitation grant of 1*s.* 6*d.* per head per week for every girl who attends the many sewing-schools in the district; and as those schools which are under Mr. Birch's superintendence alone number over 3,000 pupils, it will be seen that this capitation money amounts to a large weekly sum. The largeness of the dealings of this society will be gathered from the fact that it has this day asked the Central Committee for a grant of 25,000*l.*, to be spent in clothing alone, several thousands of pounds having already been spent that way. At the commence-

ment of the present month, the District Provident Society had no less than 61,680 "cases" to deal with, and to these "cases" it made a weekly allowance of 1,884*l*. This sum does not represent all that was given, as each committee, acting as the agency for immediate distribution, has funds of its own, and only asks from the central depôt so much as will make these funds up to the needed amount. The society has Manchester divided into eighteen districts, Salford into four, Hulme into nine, and Ardwick and Chorlton one each, and the organisation is so complete, that should any one of the district committees by any means be broken up the central district could at once, and without interruption, distribute the relief itself. The relief afforded is all supplementary, either to wages now being earned, or to Poor-law relief. The object of this is to save the rates, in some degree, from the extraordinary pressure which would else fall upon them. As it is, the rates are getting burdensome enough. The relief is given chiefly in kind; but there is a little given in money. Tickets are given upon certain shopkeepers for specified articles of food; the selection of the articles being partially left to the applicant, and great care is taken that all the food given shall be of first-class quality. The Society has proper regard to the health of its clients, and takes no steps without consulting the most efficient medical advisers who may be seen in Manchester. It is also alive to all that might tend to break down the homes of the operatives. It deprecates the selling of furniture or pawning of clothing, and takes special care that no separation of sons or daughters from parents is made. What it proposes to do could only be done with a very large and efficient staff of visitors, and this staff it has at work, and so efficient is it that every case to which the society gives relief is visited and reported upon by one of its own agents. Having seen some of its workings, and having experienced the courtesy of its officials, I can sincerely say that this society, besides being highly popular with the people, is also almost all that could be wished at a time like this. Its active members include many of the most esteemed men in Manchester, and amongst those who personally minister to the needs of its clients are some of the class who have been suffering from the attacks of the *Times*.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of the General Relief Committee at Manchester on Monday, the Mayor in the chair, Mr. Maclure read an interesting report from the Executive Committee, which stated that the weekly loss of wages is now 164,726*l*., that 448,955 persons are dependent either upon parochial aid or on voluntary charity, or on both combined. Two shillings per head is regarded by the committee as the average minimum rate of income on which it is prudent to attempt to sustain the health of the population.

This rate of aid requires, in their opinion, a separate provision of clothing, and a supply of coals to each indigent household. One-third of the weekly loss of wages has, therefore, to be supplied, to raise the average income to this standard; and about 3*d*. per week, or one-eighth more, is needed to supply fuel to households; and medicine, attendance, and necessities to the sick. The weekly outlay on this scale would amount to 61,644*l*. per week. The rate of relief, both from parochial rates and from charitable funds, has been undergoing a gradual rise; and in some districts has reached this standard; but in many others it is still considerably below it. The total weekly expenditure of the Boards of Guardians on out-door relief was last week reported by Mr. Farnall to be 18,544*l*. 7*s*. 4*d*., being 15,776*l*. 18*s*. 11*d*. in excess of the weekly outlay in the corresponding week of last year. If the Boards of Guardians were to raise this weekly outlay to 20,000*l*., your committee are of opinion that it would not be prudent to reckon on a smaller weekly expenditure by the district relief committees, in addition to unacknowledged private charity, than about 30,000*l*.,—without taking into account the extraordinary outlay still required for clothing.

The report goes on to say that further pressure is anticipated—the receivers of rents of small property, now producing nothing, being likely to require assistance. The total amount of funds at their disposal the committee estimate at over 500,000*l*. They express a belief that their rate of relief cannot undermine the independence of families, and they urge the organisation of forms of employment.

The report read by Mr. Farnall stated that the increase in the number of persons receiving relief for the week ending the 5th, was 3,014, and that the weekly cost of out-door poor relief on the 6th was 18,728*l*. 8*s*. 10*d*., being at the rate of 1*s*. 5*d*. per head. After some discussion respecting the Rate-in-Aid Act, Mr. Goadaby expressed a hope that the Central Committee would be able to make such representations to the overseers of Manchester to give as much credit as they could in the collection of the rates, as they had already given for the rates under the June levy. If they could not do this, he was satisfied that scores or hundreds would be ruined. Major Leigh presumed that no action could be taken in this matter, and that Mr. Goadaby would be satisfied by the subject being made public through the newspapers.

The following grants were made after the general meeting by the Executive Committee, the figures within parentheses representing the number of weeks for which the grants are made:—

Radcliffe (4), 250*l*., and 250*l*. for clothing; Haselgrove (4), 200*l*.; Bradford, near Bolton, 100*l*., and the same for clothing; Sutton, near Macclesfield (3), 100*l*., and 100*l*. for clothing; Rawtenstall (4), 500*l*.; Audenshaw (4), 50*l*., and 25*l*. for clothing; Oldham, 1,000*l*. for clothing; Stockport (2), 1,500*l*.; Clitheroe (2), 125*l*., and 150*l*. for clothing; Tottington Higher-end (4), 150*l*., and 100*l*. for clothing; Broadbottom (3), 250*l*.; Ramsbottom (4), 300*l*.; Droylsden (3), 200*l*.; Greenfield (3), 50*l*., and 50*l*. for clothing; Heywood (4), 1,000*l*.; New Church (4), 300*l*., and 300*l*. for clothing; Tintwistle (5), 500*l*., and 300*l*. for clothing; Macclesfield, 500*l*. for clothing; Kelbrook (6), 60*l*.; Lowton (4), 100*l*; Cragg Valley, 100*l*. for clothing; Haslingden, &c., (4), 500*l*.; Harwood (4), 75*l*., and 50*l*. for clothing; Fence with Wheatly, 50*l*., and 50*l*. for clothing; Farnmouth, 100*l*. for clothing; Seemenden (2), 25*l*.; Much Hoole (4), 40*l*.; Stacksteads (4), 300*l*., and 100*l*. for clothing; Ashton, 700*l*. for clothing; Wigan, (4), 1,000*l*., and 1,000*l*. for clothing; Blackley (5), 100*l*., and 50*l*. for clothing; Foulridge, near Colne, 50*l*. for clothing; and Witton, 150*l*. for clothing.

THE MANSION-HOUSE COMMITTEE.

The Mansion-house Committee of the Lancashire Fund held their weekly meeting at the Mansion-house on Monday. The Lord Mayor presided. Mr. Pickering, the cashier, reported that the total sum received up to Thursday evening was 282,998*l*. 13*s*. 3*d*. The total sum previously remitted was 173,873*l*. 19*s*. 6*d*. The week's receipts amounted to 31,161*l*. 11*s*. 1*d*., of which 28,058*l*. 5*s*. 7*d*. was from home, and 3,103*l*. from colonial and other sources. The clothing continues to pour in to the depôt at Bridewell, and during the week 445 parcels of clothing of every description were received, making a total of 3,858 parcels since the formation of that establishment. During the past week 193 bales have been forwarded to different districts. With respect to the discussion which took place at the last meeting as to what effect, if any, the recent large meeting at Manchester would have on the London committee, a letter from the local committee of Preston, as well as a number of letters from other local committees, were read expressing alarm at the idea of the possibility of the London committee giving up the distribution of the money. Upon these letters being read the committee decided to continue as they had hitherto done. A number of applications were received, and the committee was occupied until nearly six o'clock in the consideration of them, and other business. The following grants were made.

Roman Catholic Schools, 100*l*.; overlookers of Blackburn, 100*l*.; Crawshaw Boloth, 150*l*.; Thornton, 100*l*.; St. John's, Chadderton, 50*l*.; Oswaldtwistle overlookers, 25*l*.; Atherton, 150*l*.; Tonge, 54*l*.; Ainsworth, 150*l*.; St. James's, Clitheroe, 50*l*.; Ducie, 50*l*.; St. Philip's, Hulme, soup kitchen, 25*l*.; Stamford, 25*l*.; Fence, 50*l*.; Much Hoole, 50*l*.; Hasel Grove, 25*l*.; Stockport, Teviot Dale school, 25*l*.; Bury, 1,500*l*.; Ashton-under-Lyne, 1,500*l*.; Lawton, 100*l*.; Clitheroe, 250*l*.; Denton and Horton, Educational Committee, 15*l*.; Tintwistle, 500*l*.; Dukinfield, 1,500*l*.; Witton, 300*l*.; St. John's, Chadderton, 200*l*.; St. George's Sewing Class, 25*l*.; Blackburn, 3,000*l*.; Stockport, 2,000*l*.; Newton Moor, 200*l*.; St. Barnabas, 150*l*.; St. Thomas's, Redbank, 500*l*.; Newton Heath, 300*l*.; Gorton, 200*l*.; St. Paul's, Manchester, 200*l*.; Hurst, old committee, 500*l*.; Hurst, general committee, 300*l*.; Heywood, 500*l*.; Glossop, 500*l*.; Livesey, 100*l*.; Hulme township, 1,500*l*.; Norden, 100*l*.; Bolton Protection Society, 1,000*l*.; Withnell, 100*l*.; Broadbottom and Charlesworth, 200*l*.; Healey, 100*l*.; Haslingden, 500*l*.; St. Michael's, Manchester, 300*l*.; Salford, 2,000*l*.; Leyland, 250*l*.; Oswaldtwistle, 250*l*.; Tong Tower-end, 100*l*.; Moor-side, 100*l*.—making a total of 22,415*l*.

CONGREGATIONAL COLLECTIONS.

The following subscriptions are acknowledged in the lists of the Central and Mansion-house Committees:—

Two weekly subscriptions from Mare-street Chapel, Hackney, 6*l*. 17*s*. 2*d*.; Marylebone Presbyterian Church, Upper George-street, per Rev. W. Chalmers, minister, 15*l*. 6*s*. 10*d*.; Carlton-hill Presbyterian Church, St. John's-wood, London, per R. Garden, 7*l*. 7*s*.; moiety of collection at Jamaica-row Chapel, Bermondsey, per Rev. G. Rose, 20*l*.; collection at the Weigh-house Chapel, per the Rev. Thomas Binney, 32*l*. 10*s*.; fourth weekly collection at the Independent Chapel, Norwood, per the Rev. B. Kent, 28*l*. 4*s*. 2*d*.; fifth ditto, per ditto, 25*l*.; one week's subscription from Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, Claylands Chapel, per E. S. Marriott, 20*l*.; R. Wright, Esq., Union Chapel, Islington, 20*l*.; Welsh Independent Chapel, Borough, 5*l*. 1*s*. 7*d*.; collection, Independent Chapel, Fudoxhill, near Frome, per Rev. T. Howell, 2*l*.; contribution, English Pre-byterian Church, Thropton, near Rothbury, per Rev. D. S. Tergus, 6*l*. 10*s*. 3*d*.; Congregational Chapel, Star-lane, Stamford, including 1*s*. from a Little Girl, 16*l*. 2*s*. 9*d*.; collection Independent Chapel, Market Harborough, per Mr. Baswell (4th week's collection), 5*l*. 0*s*. 6*d*.; collection, Independent Chapel Schools, Elsecar, Rotherham, 7*l*. 1*s*.; Cheetham-hill Congregational Church (weekly box), 2*l*.; Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, Northop, Flintshire, 3*l*. 6*s*. 1*d*.; Salford Presbyterian Church, Chapel-street, 3*l*. 10*s*.; weekly offering, Independent Chapel, Sale, per T. B. Waters, 2*l*. 0*s*. 9*d*.; collection, Baptist Chapel, Chipping Norton, 31*l*. 3*s*.; four weeks' collection boxes, Independent Chapel, Spalding, Lincolnshire, per Rev. R. Dixon, 11*l*. 5*s*. 6*d*.; collection, Independent Chapel, 39*l*., Sunday-school, 14*s*., Great Driffeld, per H. Angus, 39*l*. 14*s*.; profit on a lecture by Henry Vincent, Esq., on the American Rebellion, at Frome, per John Blackwell, Esq., 1*l*. 10*s*.; Baptist Chapel, Owestry, per Rev. E. Wilkes, 16*l*. 15*s*. 6*d*.; collection, Congregational Church, Halesworth, per W. H. Aldred, 15*l*. 1*s*.; collection, Congregational Church, Ormskirk, per W. D. Earnside, 5*l*. 0*s*. 6*d*.; half of three weeks' collection, Congregational Church, Wareham, 4*l*. 6*s*.; collection, Independent Chapel, Morecambe, near Lancaster, per Robert Shackle-

ton, 4*l*. 9*s*.; collections, Eastville and Carrington Chapels, Lincolnshire, per Rev. W. L. Childs, 7*l*. 16*s*. 10*d*.; voluntary rate, parish Rugford, Ormskirk, per Rev. Canon Camberlain, 50*l*. 2*s*.; collection, Independent Chapel, Ashwell, per Rev. J. B. Millson, 15*l*. 13*s*.; collection, Ingham Baptist Chapel, 2*l*. 13*s*., boxes in shop of R. B. Silcock and Son, Statham, 9*s*. 9*d*., per R. B. Silcock, 3*l*. 2*s*. 6*d*.; collection, Congregational Chapel, Belper, per Rev. H. H. Scullard, 7*l*. 10*s*.; collection, Independent Chapel, Morpeth, Northumberland, per Rev. W. Ayre, 12*l*. Collection, lecture, Independent Chapel, Framlingham, per Rev. S. H. Browning, 7*l*. 10*s*.—Independent Chapel, Newton-in-Bowland, 1*l*. 5*s*.

The following sums have been received by the London Congregational Committee:—

Hanover Chapel, Peckham. Rev. R. W. Betts, one-half of collection, 70*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*.; Lion-walk Congregation, Colchester, per Rev. T. W. Davids, 2nd remittance, 10*l*.; Union Chapel, Brixton-hill, per Rev. John Hall, 56*l*. 9*s*. 6*d*.; Broadway Chapel, Hammersmith, per Rev. R. Macbeth, 22*l*. 4*s*. 6*d*.; Poultry Chapel, per Rev. Dr. Spence, 65*l*.; Chippenham, per Rev. E. S. Hart, 11*l*. 3*s*.; City-road Chapel, per Rev. A. Hannay, 20*l*. 16*s*.; Winchmore-hill, per Rev. John Mark, 7*l*.; Southgate Congregational Church, De Beauvoir-town, per Rev. J. Spong, 36*l*. 13*s*. 6*d*.; Swansea, per Rev. Thos. Rees, 6*l*. 15*s*.; Camden-road, per D. M'Neil, Esq., 23*l*. 5*s*.; York-street Chapel, Walworth, per Rev. P. J. Turquand, 50*l*.; Weigh House Chapel, per Rev. T. Binney, 73*l*. 10*s*.; Poplar Chapel, per Rev. George Smith, 14*l*. 10*s*.; Craven-hill Chapel, per C. A. Nicholson, Esq., 100*l*.; Falcon-street Chapel, per Rev. J. S. Hall, 14*l*. 5*s*. 5*d*.; Camberwell-green Chapel, per William Edwards, Esq., 24*l*. 14*s*. 5*d*.; Congregational Church, Wareham, Dorset, per Rev. C. Selby, 4*l*. 6*s*.; Bedford Chapel, Oakley-square, per Rev. Thomas Jones, 100*l*. Total, 723*l*. 4*s*. 10*d*.

A sacramental collection at Union Chapel, Islington, on Sunday week, produced 100*l*. 15*s*. This, with other sums added, makes 176*l*. 15*s*. 8*d*. contributed by this chapel to the Lancashire churches. About 2*l*. 10*s*. each Sunday in addition is contributed by the Sunday-school, which has now raised about 10*l*. for the same purpose. All this in addition to 336*l*. contributed previously to the public funds.—Sermons were preached on Sunday week at the Baptist Chapel, Derby-road, Nottingham, on behalf of the distressed operatives. 33*l*. 5*s*. was realised.—At the Independent Chapel, Great Driffeld, Yorkshire, 38*l*. 19*s*. was collected on Sunday week, after sermons by the Rev. W. Mitchell.—At Londonderry, on Sunday, the 7th inst., after an appeal by the Rev. R. Sewell, a collection was made amounting to 10*l*.,—At Ockermouth 11*l*. 2*s*. 6*d*. was collected on Sunday week for the special benefit of the unemployed operatives in the church and congregation at Chorley, over which the Rev. W. Southwick (their late pastor) presides.—At the Unity Church (Unitarian), Islington, on Sunday, after sermons by the Rev. H. Ierton, the sum of 157*l*. was collected.—At the Unitarian Chapel, Renshaw-street, Liverpool, after a sermon by the Rev. J. H. Thom, a collection amounting to 630*l*. has been made in aid of the Lancashire Relief Fund.

The amount of subscriptions (advertised elsewhere) received by the Congregational Central Committee during the past week is about 1,030*l*.

The sum collected by the Unitarian congregation, Hackney, of which the Rev. R. B. Aspland is the minister, amounts to 375*l*. 10*s*., in addition to which monthly payments are promised up to April, amounting to 89*l*. 17*s*. 6*d*., making a total of 465*l*. 7*s*. 6*d*. Besides this money contribution, we are informed that about twenty-five cases of blankets, clothing, and materials, have been forwarded for distribution among the distressed operatives of the North.

FUNERAL OF THE REV. DR. BENNETT.

The funeral of the late Rev. James Bennett, D.D., formerly President of Rotherham College, took place on Thursday, at Abney-park Cemetery, Stoke Newington. It being apprehended that the small chapel in the cemetery grounds would not be large enough to accommodate the many friends and admirers of the deceased, the service preparatory to the burial was held in Abney-park Chapel, of which the Rev. John Jefferson is pastor. Notwithstanding the unpropitious aspect of the weather the body of the building was well filled, and shortly after one o'clock the funeral procession arrived. Dr. Bennett was followed to the grave by his three surviving sons and three grandsons, the deacons of his church, and some of his oldest friends. Amongst the latter were the Revs. Thomas Binney, S. Martin, George Smith (Secretary of Congregational Union), E. Mausering, J. E. Richards, Thos. James (Secretary of Colonial Missionary Society), T. Aveling, R. Ashton (Secretary of Congregational Union), Drs. Tidman, Prout, and Hoppus. Dr. Tidman commenced the service by prayer, and reading the 15th chapter of 1st Cor. He was followed by Mr. Jefferson, the oldest student in London who had been under Dr. Bennett's able tuition at Rotherham College. He pronounced an able and lengthy discourse, principally on the character of his late tutor. Touching on the incidents of Dr. Bennett's first charge at Romsey, he dwelt with high eulogium on his honourable career at Rotherham, on his unwearied diligence and his great capacity for work, his solid learning, his orthodox theological views, and his devotion to the truths of the Gospel. The preacher remarked how strongly Dr. Bennett had always been opposed to anything like negativism in religion, and he had particularly manifested this in his valuable book published in 1815, "Reality of the Influence of the Holy Spirit." Mr. Jefferson spoke warmly of his own esteem and love for his late venerable friend and tutor, saying

also how well he remembered the doctor's pithy and astute remarks when head of the college, and which made a deep impression upon the students. He made some touching allusions to the last illness of the rev. gentleman. At the conclusion of the address, the procession left the chapel and entered the cemetery, whose gates are immediately opposite, where the Rev. Dr. Tidman performed the last rites over the grave.

THE AMERICAN WAR AND SLAVERY.

The treasurer and secretary of the Committee of Correspondence with America on Slavery, present their compliments to the editor of the *Nonconformist*, and forward him an address which may be of interest to his readers.

3, Tanfield-court, Inner Temple, E.C.

TO OUR FELLOW-CHRISTIANS IN ENGLAND.

Honoured Brethren,—Deeply impressed with the solemnity and gravity of the questions at issue in the terrible conflict at present raging between the Southern and Northern sections of the American States, we, the undersigned, venture to address you in the interest of truth and humanity.

Nations are liable, in the ordinary course of things, to misunderstand one another; and, consequently to cherish animosities which a better acquaintance would correct. The American people and ourselves are peculiarly exposed, at the present time, to mutual misapprehension, from our common interest in the present struggle; and the persistent representations of certain journalists and public orators on each side of the Atlantic, tending to aggravate national prejudices, by the distortion and suppression of facts.

We deem the misunderstanding and ill-will thus studiously kept up fraught with immense mischief in many ways; and, at the risk of some obloquy, feel constrained to call attention to certain facts which by some are strangely ignored; and to avow the conclusions to which these facts have led us.

There are many debatable points involved in the present conflict, on which, however settled our own judgments, it is no part of our design now to enter. We leave the constitutional and purely political questions to other hands, or to other occasions; but on the moral bearings of this war, we cannot as Christians and friends of human equality and human freedom remain silent, or speak with an uncertain sound.

Four millions of our fellow-men are held in slavery by the Southern States, now aiming at National Independence, and in open war with the Federal Government. To the condition of those bondmen we cannot be indifferent. Let Americans settle their own form of civil government, and determine their own borders, as they may deem best; but moral questions concern us all. Slavery does violence to the instincts of our common nature. It is a flagrant offence against humanity; and we all, not only have a right, but are placed under weighty religious obligations, to do what in us lies, by moral means, to bring to a speedy end that great crime and curse wherever it exists.

To enter into all details, and to furnish authorities for our views, come not within the scope of this brief appeal.—For much necessary information on the entire question, we refer with confidence to a pamphlet recently published by the Rev. William Taylor, Minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on "The Cause and Probable Results of the Civil War in America" (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Stationers' Hall-court); and a published lecture recently delivered by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., entitled "The American War" (James Nisbet and Co., Berners-street). There is also a brief statement of facts entitled "The American Crisis in relation to Slavery," (Elliot Stock, Paternoster-row), drawn up by the Rev. Dr. Waddington; and "The American Crisis in relation to the Anti-Slavery Cause," by J. W. Massie, D.D., LL.D. (J. Snow, Paternoster-row).

The facts contained in these and other publications, and in some portions of the daily press, constrain us to avow the deep and settled conviction that this war originated in the determination of the South to maintain the present system of slavery, by extending it; that it was not caused by any unconstitutional or oppressive act of the United States Government; and that while that Government entered into the war avowedly to suppress an act of rebellion, and to maintain the integrity of the Republic, its subsequent action has been progressively and effectually anti-slavery.

Among a large mass of evidence showing that this war originated with the South, and was entered upon with a view to the perpetuation of slavery, we select the following announcement of Mr. Stephens, the Vice-President of the Confederate States:—

"The new constitution," he says, "has put at rest for ever all the agitating questions relating to one particular institution—African slavery as it exists among us—the proper status of the negro in our form of civilisation. This was the immediate cause of the late rupture and present revolution. The prevailing ideas entertained by Jefferson and most of the leading statesmen at the time of the formation of the old constitution, were that the enslavement of the African race was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, morally, and politically. Our new Government is founded upon exactly the opposite ideas. Its foundations are laid, the corner stone rests, upon the great truth, that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery, subordination to the superior race, is his natural and normal condition—the stone which was rejected by the first builders, is become the chief stone of the corner in our new edifice."

And if the maintenance of slavery was the main cause of the war, according to the admission of the South itself; what has been the action of the United States Government, since the commencement of hostilities, in respect to the accursed system?

Mr. Lincoln was elected to the Presidential chair to maintain the policy of the non-extension of slavery into the vast territories belonging to the American Union, and not yet divided off into separate States; since he came into office in March, 1861, slavery has been abolished in the district of Columbia; compensation has been offered to the border States for the emancipation of their slaves; more than 200,000 slaves have in various ways gained their freedom; slavery, by an act of the Legislature, has been forever excluded from the territories, a district nearly as large as Europe; the

Government of Washington has entered into treaty with Great Britain for the more effectual suppression of the African slave-trade; and it has carried out, for the first time, the law of the United States, which punishes, as piracy, the importation of slaves; it has formally recognised the Negro Republics of Hayti and Liberia; the President, as possessed of supreme military authority, has issued a declaration declaring that on January 1st, 1863, all slaves in States then in rebellion against the Government shall be absolutely free; while notice is given that a measure will be proposed to Congress at the next session, offering compensation to loyal citizens for the emancipation of their slaves. Whatever may be objected to this proclamation, whether by friends or foes, there can be no doubt of the direction in which it points.

Who could have anticipated, two years since, such advances in the cause of emancipation? Who, with the slightest respect for his own credit, will assert in the face of these facts that slavery has nothing to do with the present war? And what man whose mind and heart are sound in abhorrence of slavery—so well-named by the great and good John Wesley "the sum of all villainies"—can hesitate as to which side should have his sympathies in this terrible conflict?

The immediate extinction of slavery, was not, we believe, the purpose of the North, in taking up arms to suppress the rebellion of the South; but that extinction is nevertheless, the issue to which this dreadful struggle is now hastening.

The election of President Lincoln, fairly interpreted, really involved the gradual and constitutional abolition of slavery; the real issue of the war as now carried on—a war in which the Free States were led, without expectation, and without preparation, is that this abolition shall be effected.

The men of the Free States—like ourselves, an industrious, manufacturing, and commercial people—are in favour of peace, both within their own national borders, and in relation to all other powers; but peace with slavery is now very generally admitted to be an absolute impossibility. Hence, as the speediest, and most effectual method of crushing the rebellion, the party in power are now striking an effective blow at its cause; and are, in fact, exacting from the originators of the strife, and the real authors of all its disastrous consequences in America and in Europe, the abolition of that enormous wrong, for the extension and perpetuation of which the Southern States took up arms. Nor have we any hope (commendable on the score of humanity as attempts at friendly mediation may be) that a permanent peace can be established, till slavery is brought to an end.

We have thus given utterance to some of the convictions which long and careful examination of the facts has produced. To an earnest and renewed inquiry into those facts we now respectfully invite you; not doubting the issue, and not hesitating to say that the magnitude and solemnity of the interests involved, makes such inquiry a matter of paramount and universal obligation.

Conviction leads to action; and we should ask ourselves what is the proper use to be made of a right knowledge of the origin and bearing of the present war?

Our first duty is with God, who only can bring about the right result. To Him let us address ourselves in earnest prayer, seeking at His hands such an influence in the hearts of all concerned, and such a disposal of events, that the bondmen may go free, and that peace and prosperity may yet be the portion of that entire nation.

Our next duty is with men; and, first of all, we name our fellow-citizens generally. It is of the very highest importance that the public sentiment should remain sound in respect to the essential immorality of slavery. Great as are, and much greater as may yet be, our commercial loss and physical sufferings in consequence of the American war, for the heart of Great Britain to cease to beat truly in abhorrence of slavery would be a greater evil still. Be it then our strenuous endeavour, as Christian men, to fix public attention upon this gigantic moral wrong, as the real cause of existing calamities; and to awaken public sympathy in favour of its absolute and immediate removal. Our second duty relates to our own Government. Hitherto our rulers have maintained a wise and just neutrality. Very strenuous efforts, we deeply regret to say, are being put forth by various parties in this and other countries in favour of the recognition of the Slave States, and even, it is feared, of an armed interference on their behalf. We do not anticipate the success of these efforts; but we are convinced that the utmost watchfulness must be steadily maintained, at the present crisis, by the earnest friends of human freedom. Any attempt on the part of our Government to put an end to the present war by military intervention, will, we believe, prove as fatal to our own interests as ob-structive to the return of peace. Next to the steady maintenance of the policy of non-intervention, our duty lies in the direction of the more immediate sufferers at home; and here our course of action is two-fold. On the one hand, it is incumbent upon us, as a nation, to meet the present appalling emergency by an increase and steady continuance of private and public contributions in money and materials, on a scale to which former deeds, of the like order, furnish no parallel; and on the other, to apply our earnest counsels and best energies to the grand and necessary expedient of raising in our own possessions and in other regions, by free labour alone, that raw material which is now such an essential element in our national industry and strength.

Besides these things, it becomes us to be duly alive to all the attempts that are being so studiously and stealthily made, to extract political capital out of existing calamities; and to see that the peril to which free institutions are at this moment unhappily exposed abroad, is not made the occasion of arresting the progress of constitutional liberty at home.

To these duties we very respectfully and earnestly entreat our own fellow-Christian and friends of freedom in our highly-favoured land; entertaining as we do a strong conviction that the terrible ordeal through which the descendants of a common noble ancestry, on each side the Atlantic, are now passing, is permitted by the wise and merciful Disposer of all things, as a befitting chastisement for sins in the past, and an effective preparation for a higher service and a richer joy in time to come.

We remain, Christian Brethren,

Yours affectionately,

In the bond of a common faith.

ROBERT ASHTON, Sec. of Congregational Union.

THOMAS AVELING, Sec. of Asylum for Fatherless Children.

CHARLES BIRD, Barrister-at-law.

JOSEPH BEAZLEY, Blackheath.

W. F. BLAKE.

W. A. BLAKE.

S. WESLEY BRADNACK, Cobham.

WILLIAM BROCK, D.D., London.

ROBERT BRUCE, M.A., Huddersfield.

JAMES BURNS, D.D., Paddington.

JAMES R. CAMPBELL, D.D., Bradford.

JOHN CAMPBELL, D.D., London.

L. A. CHAMEROVZOW, Sec. of Anti-Slavery Society.

CLEMENT DUKES, M.A., Dalston.

W. W. DYER, Bath.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Treasurer of Liberation Society.

C. J. EVANS, Putney.

E. GARDNER FISHBOURNE, Capt. R.N., Sec. to Naval and Military Bible Society.

G. W. FISHBOURNE, Stratford.

J. C. GALLAWAY, A.M., Sec. to English Chapel-Building Society.

CHARLES GILBERT, Sec. to London Chapel-Building Society.

ALEXANDER GOOD.

JOHN GRAHAM, Craven Chapel.

SAMUEL GREEN, Hammermith.

NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., Surrey Chapel.

ALEXANDER HANNAY, City-road.

W. HARRIS.

THOMAS JAMES, Sec. to Colonial Missionary Society.

JOHN JEFFERSON, Stoke Newington.

THOMAS JONES, Sec. to City of London Temperance Society.

R. KING.

A. KING, Dublin.

WILLIAM KANDEL, Regent's-park.

W. HANKS LEVY, Sec. for Promoting Welfare of the Blind.

AUSTIN E. LORD, Sec. to Surrey Mission.

W. P. LYON, B.A., Islington.

A. MACKENNA, Surbiton.

J. W. MASSIE, D.D., LL.D., London.

W. O'NEILL, London.

JOHN B. PATON, M.A., Sheffield.

JOHN PILLANS, Camberwell.

THOMAS REES, D.D., Swansea.

J. WILBERFORCE RICHARDSON, London.

BENJAMIN SCOTT, F.R.A.S., Hon. Sec. Working Men's Educational Union.

JOSEPH SOUL, Sec. to Orphan Working School.

CHARLES STOVEL, London.

FREDERICK TOMKINS, M.A., LL.D.

FREDERICK TRESTRAIL, Sec. of Baptist Missionary Society.

W. TYLER, Mile-end.

J. WADDINGTON, D.D., Pastor of Pilgrim Fathers' Church, Southwark.

J. W. WILLANS, London.

WILLIAM WILLIS, LL.D., Barrister-at-Law.

JOSHUA WILSON, Tunbridge Wells.

E. B. UNDERHILL, Sec. Baptist Missionary Society.

And others.

The newly-formed Emancipation Society have also issued an address to ministers of all religious denominations, urging upon them the propriety of giving prominence to the subject of negro emancipation in the religious services which, in this country at least, always herald the advent of a new year, and calling special attention to the fact that President Lincoln has appointed the 1st of January, 1863, as the day on which he will, by virtue of the powers vested in him, declare slavery to be abolished in the rebel States.

On Wednesday evening a crowded meeting was held at the Old Malthouse, Edenbridge; Mr. S. Scott, of Southborough, in the chair. The Rev. C. Winter delivered an able address, condemning, on the part of free Englishmen, all sympathy with the slave-holding Confederation. The lecturer was loudly applauded throughout, and votes of thanks were passed unanimously.

A very crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held on Friday evening at the Lambeth Baths, Westminster-road, to express sympathy with the anti-slavery party in America. The chair was taken by the Rev. Newman Hall, who in an eloquent speech on the subject denounced the slave system of the Southern States, and upheld the policy of President Lincoln as set forth in his late proclamation, which would come into force on the 1st of January next. Mr. George Thompson and the Rev. J. H. Ryland, attended as a deputation from the Emancipation Society. The resolutions strongly condemned slavery, and declared that England could never sympathise with or desire the recognition of any nation which upheld slavery. Among the speakers was Mr. Jackson, the coloured ex-coachman of Jefferson Davis. He was received with immense applause, and said,—He had lived twenty-nine years and six months in slavery, and was just thirty years of age. It was false to say that the slaves as a class did not desire freedom. They had been praying four years for the election of an Abolitionist for President. Hundreds and thousands had escaped since Mr. Lincoln came into office. Jefferson Davis had hired him of a Mr. W. A. Tyler, as coachman, at the rate of 250 dollars a-year, and had given security for 800 dollars in the event of his escaping. That money would have to be paid if he did not return on the 25th of the present month. (Laughter.) He asked for the sympathy of Englishmen on behalf of his brethren in bondage, and for those who were fighting for their freedom. He looked forward to the 1st of January as a day of jubilee. (Loud cheers.)

A crowded meeting for the same purpose was held on Monday evening in the school-room, Exmouth-street, Clerkenwell. The Rev. T. E. Thoresby presided. The Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel moved:—

That, in the judgment of the meeting, the Government and people of the United States having freed themselves from the guilt of complicity with slavery, and being engaged in a

deadly struggle with the rebellious upholders of the atrocious system, are entitled to the warmest sympathy of the British people.

The struggle in which the North was engaged was extremely deadly, and it was the more to be deplored, because the force of the South very much rested on tyranny over the labouring class. The Southerners were apparently strong in numbers, because the white men could be spared to fight, inasmuch as the labour was conducted by slaves. He believed that many of the white population had been forced into the army, and that even Unionists had been compelled to enter the Southern army. But this system was as exhausting as it was for the time effectual, and he thought the end might come sooner than some of the friends of liberty imagined. The rebellion had been of the most flagrant character, and every Englishman who supported it supported a most causeless and criminal proceeding. (Approbation.) It had been almost unparalleled, because rebellions had been raised to secure liberty, whereas the rebellion of the South had been got up to uphold tyranny. If they wished to see freedom triumph, and not to see the slaveholders have all the freedom for themselves, they would cordially support the efforts which the North was making for emancipation. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Washington Wilks, the Rev. Dr. Massie, Mr. Willcox, Mr. Geo. Thompson, the Rev. Mr. Elliott, and other gentlemen, subsequently addressed the meeting, and a resolution in support of the newly-formed Emancipation Society was unanimously adopted.

THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.

On Monday a deputation of magistrates of the City of London, headed by the Lord Mayor, had an interview by appointment with Sir George Grey, at the Home-office, in reference to the existing state of the law applicable to the class of hardened criminals and its administration.

It should be stated that, on Friday last, a meeting of aldermen of the City of London, convened by the chief magistrate, in pursuance of an order of reference made at their last court, was held at the Mansion-house, to consider the present state of crime, and with the view to place themselves in communication with her Majesty's Government on the subject. At that conference it was unanimously resolved, "that in the opinion of the magistrates of the City of London the present system of dealing with the criminal population of this country is defective, highly dangerous, and unsatisfactory, and therefore requires alteration; and that a recurrence to the punishment of transportation is highly desirable."

At the interview on Monday, after a statement from the Lord Mayor in the sense of the above resolution,

Sir GEORGE GREY said no doubt we at home were now suffering from the evil of which some of the colonies complained when we transported our criminals there. The Act of 1853 substituted shorter terms of penal servitude for terms of transportation, and the Act of 1857 substituting penal servitude for transportation, repealed the Act of 1853, so far as a judge had power to award shorter terms of penal servitude, and enacted that the courts might sentence offenders to the same long terms of penal servitude as they had previously sentenced them to transportation. In other words, the Act of 1857 expressly provided that sentences of penal servitude, which by that of 1853 were of short duration, should be lengthened, and under the provisions of both these statutes, the ticket-of-leave system was established. He had determined some time ago to appoint a commission, composed of members of both Houses of Parliament, to inquire into the operation of those acts, and especially as to the manner in which sentences passed under their authority were carried into effect. He thought an inquiry so conducted would elicit a great deal of valuable information, and result in suggestions which would tend greatly to improve the present system. The operation of the Act of 1853 formed the subject of inquiry by a parliamentary committee in 1856, and the act of 1857 was the result of that inquiry. But after the experience of the last five years the operation of the latter act itself had become a fit subject for inquiry, and he had given directions for a commission, which would probably be issued on Tuesday next. The Act of 1857, while substituting penal servitude for transportation, contained an express provision that sentences of penal servitude might be carried into effect in the penal settlements of the crown, and since the act passed about 2,000 convicts had been sent to Western Australia. The operation of the act in that respect would be included in the commission. As to the tickets-of-leave, they were colonial in the first instance.

Alderman PHILLIPS asked whether over and above the commission about to be issued, anything could be done to appease the public mind?

Sir GEORGE GREY replied that he had instructed the metropolitan police to report upon every case of alleged violence which had been related in the public newspapers and had not come under the cognisance of the police-courts, and the result had been that a great number of those reports were totally without foundation. One of their own City detective officers had recently exposed the utter falsehood of a story of that kind which was bruited about. He (Sir George Grey) did not, however, intend to deny that there was an extraordinary number of such cases at the present time, and the Government had taken means to prevent their recurrence. He had had a number of persons apprehended in such cases, and had caused inquiry to be made into their antecedents, so far as those were known. Few, however, were

recognised as ticket-of-leave men, but many were known to have undergone penal servitude at some period or other.

After some further conversation the interview terminated.

MEMORIALS OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.

The anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort has been observed by the publication, on Monday morning, of his "Principal Speeches and Addresses," as we are informed, "at the express desire and under the sanction of her Majesty." They are accompanied by an introduction giving an outline of the Prince's character, and stating some things in his life not before generally known. It appears, for example, that he never aspired to be Commander-in-Chief of the Army, but, after consideration, declined the suggestion of the late Duke of Wellington that he should succeed him in that post. This fact appears from certain memoranda in the Prince's writing, now for the first time made public. Ultimately his Royal Highness formally refused the appointment in the following very admirable letter:—

My dear Duke, — The Queen and myself have thoroughly considered your proposal to join the offices of Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General into one of a Chief of the Staff, with a view to facilitate the future assumption of the command of the army by myself. . . . The question whether it will be advisable that I should take the command of the army or not has been most anxiously weighed by me, and I have come to the conclusion that my decision ought entirely and solely to be guided by the consideration whether it would interfere with or assist my position of Consort of the Sovereign, and the performance of the duties which this position imposes upon me.

This position is a most peculiar and delicate one. While a female Sovereign has a great many disadvantages in comparison with a King, yet, if she is married, and her husband understands and does his duty, her position, on the other hand, has many compensating advantages, and, in the long run, will be found even to be stronger than that of a male Sovereign. But this requires that the husband should entirely sink his own individual existence in that of his wife—that he should aim at no power by himself or for himself—should shun all ostentation—assume no separate responsibility before the public—but make his position entirely a part of hers—fill up every gap which as a woman she would naturally leave in the exercise of her regal functions—continually and anxiously watch every part of the public business, in order to be able to advise and assist her at any moment in any of the multifarious and difficult questions or duties brought before her, sometimes international, sometimes political, or social or personal. As the natural head of her family, superintendent of her household, manager of her private affairs, sole confidential adviser in politics, and only assistant in her communications with the officers of the Government, he is, besides the husband of the Queen, the tutor of the Royal children, the private secretary of the Sovereign, and her permanent Minister.

How far would it be consistent with this position to undertake the management and administration of a most important branch of the public service, and the individual responsibility attaching to it—becoming an executive officer of the Crown, receiving the Queen's commands through her Secretaries of State, &c.? I feel sure that, having undertaken the responsibility, I should not be satisfied to leave the business and real work in the hands of another (the Chief of the Staff), but should feel it my duty to look to them myself. But while I should in this manner perform duties which, I am sure, every able general officer who has gained experience in the field would be able to perform better than myself, who have not had the advantage of such experience, most important duties connected with the welfare of the Sovereign would be left unperformed, which nobody could perform but myself. I am afraid, therefore, that I must discard the tempting idea of being placed in command of the British army.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Sunday being the anniversary of the lamented death of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, the Queen remained in complete seclusion. In the morning her Majesty and the Royal family attended Divine service, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Stanley in her private apartment. Dr. Stanley afterwards preached in the private chapel a sermon on the occasion before their Royal Highnesses the Princess and Princesses and the household.

Her Majesty and the Royal family will leave Windsor Castle for Osborne either on Saturday next or the Monday following. It is expected that the Court will not return to Windsor from Osborne until after the 10th of February. Her Majesty will then reside at the Castle until the middle of May. —*Court Journal*.

We learn that Dr. Arthur Farre is appointed, in conjunction with Sir C. Locock, to attend the Princess Alice in her confinement, which is expected to take place next April. —*Medical Times*.

It is rumoured that Prince Alfred is about to sail in the *Raccoon* on a long cruise, including, it is said, Australia.

Most of the members of the Cabinet are absent from town.

On the occasion of the death of his father, the Queen commanded the Marchioness of Ely to send to Dr. Norman McLeod a cordial letter of sympathy.

Messrs. Scholefield and Bright are to meet their constituents at Birmingham in the Town-hall tomorrow.

A memorial is being prepared in Glasgow, soliciting a pension of 100*l.* a-year for the widow of the late Sheridan Knowles.

Parliament is expected to meet for business on Thursday, the 5th of February.

The Right Hon. Spencer Walpole has been appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury an Ecclesiastical Commissioner, in the room of Mr. Deedes.

Miscellaneous News.

THE LIVERPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has passed a resolution in favour of exempting private property from capture at sea in time of war.

THE O'CONNELL FAMILY.—A sister of Daniel O'Connell died last Tuesday at Ballyroan, Kilkenny, within a few hours of her husband, Counsellor Finn, one of the founders of the Catholic Association, and formerly M.P. for that county. Mr. Finn was seventy-eight years old.

SYMPATHY WITH THE GREEKS.—A meeting was held in the London Tavern on Wednesday, to express sympathy with the Greeks in respect of their late revolution. Mr. Crawford, M.P., presided. Mr. Baillie Cochrane, M.P., moved the first resolution, and Mr. H. Seymour, M.P., the second. The first declared the gratification of the meeting at the efforts being made by the Greeks for the political regeneration of their country. The second expressed the conviction that in the reorganisation of their political affairs the Greeks will most scrupulously respect the rights of other States. Interesting speeches were made in support of these resolutions, which were carried.

REPRESENTATION OF EAST KENT.—Sir Norton Knatchbull has been adopted by the Conservatives as their candidate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Mr. Deedes, M.P. The Liberals unanimously support Sir E. Dering, who at a meeting held at Ramsgate on Monday said he was in favour of judicious economy, and of the abolition of church-rates. One reason why he was in favour of the latter was, because it was unwise to retain a law which any parish vestry could set at naught. He should also be prepared to give a hearty and cordial support to the foreign and domestic policy of the administration of Lord Palmerston. A vote of confidence in Sir Edward Dering was passed.

THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.—An appeal has just been issued by the committee of this school to ministers, begging them to institute a congregational collection in behalf of this invaluable school during the year 1863. "At the present time 302 orphans are in the establishment, and there is room for 100 more, who will be admitted as soon as adequate funds are contributed for their support. When collections amount to 10*l.* 10*s.* and upwards, the congregation has votes for twenty-one years at all elections for children; and in addition, the gentlemen who preach on the occasion are constituted life governors of the charity, and have the right to nominate and vote for children at the elections." A Congregational minister, whose decease in the midst of a life of usefulness in a sister country we very recently noticed, was educated in this school, and attributed his serious impressions to the training he there received.

M.P.'s ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.—Mr. Leatham addressed his constituents in Huddersfield on Tuesday night, and obtained at the conclusion of the proceedings the hearty thanks of the meeting. The hon. gentleman made an admirable and witty speech on the events of last session, and in referring to American affairs, contending that English sympathies were out of place when bestowed on the Southern States. He argued that, after paying 20,000,000*l.* to emancipate the slaves in British colonies, we could have no friendship with a community which was built on the principle already so strongly condemned by the British people.—On Monday evening Mr. Frederick Doulton met his Lambeth constituents at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, Mr. H. R. Ellington in the chair. Mr. Doulton argued in favour of a wise economy that should be consistent with the maintenance of the national dignity. He said the defeat of the bill to abolish Church-rates could not have occurred if the Liberals had shown the same activity as their opponents. Then he argued in favour of the ballot, considering the election at Totnes an instance of its necessity, touching then upon Italian and American affairs. Referring to the American struggle, he said that it certainly did appear strange that in this free country, where the name of slavery was utterly detested, there should be any sympathy for the Southern Confederacy, which based its existence upon slavery. That sympathy, he believed, arose from the libellous misrepresentations and gross insults heaped upon this country by the North—"Hear, hear," and "No"—and also, no doubt, because it was believed that the material interests of this country would gain by a disruption of the United States. (Hear, hear.) If the South should succeed in establishing their independence, he was convinced that slavery would be consolidated and extended.—(Hear, hear.)—whereas if the North were successful, slavery must inevitably be curtailed. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by saying that among the Acts of Parliament next session he hoped would be a reduction of the national expenditure, and measures to protect honest people from being garrotted in London, and he trusted that the admirable conduct of the Lancashire operatives would convince all parties that working men could be trusted with the franchise. (Cheers.) Whatever might be the shortcomings of the present Government on home questions, he thought it was necessary in the present ominous aspect of affairs throughout the world that they should be supported by all Liberals.—(Hear)—and that it would be a real misfortune if Lord Palmerston were replaced by Lord Derby. ("Hear," and "Oh!") A vote of continued confidence in Mr. Doulton was unanimously passed.

Literature.

"APHORISMS OF THE WISE AND GOOD."*

When publishers prepare illustrated books for this time-honoured gift-season, it is generally the case that works are selected for their fitness to illustration, rather than for their own worth. If only the literature be respectable, or of a popular order, the artists employed upon it are to be trusted to commend it, to be relied on for its success. Thus, it happens that we have better illustrated editions, on the whole, of Pollok and James Montgomery than of Milton and Tennyson; better illustrated collections of poems selected for their pictorial character, than of great poems subjected to artistic interpretation. But when it is resolved by a publisher to issue what is now known as an *illuminated* work, it becomes of less importance still what the literature selected may be. The illuminations are mere ornament,—they express nothing of themselves, they contribute nothing to the text. Illuminated works, consequently, are always to be regarded rather as specimens of decorative design, than as books in the proper sense. Such, mainly, is a charming little volume which Messrs. Griffith and Farran issue this season, with illuminations by Mr. Samuel Stanesby. The illuminations are borders, inclosing a text composed of aphorisms from various writers. They give a broad belt of gold and colour to twenty-eight small square pages. Each is of a different design; all being foliated on floral ornament, of a conventional, not natural character. They are of considerable variety; but with rather too frequent a recurrence to trifoliate details: and two or three are only modifications of one conception. The general forms are exceedingly graceful; the exceptions being of a few that are somewhat petty and *dotty* (especially numbers eight, eighteen, and twenty-six). Half of them have a dead gold ground, with the ornament and initial letter in rich colours,—producing a solid and gorgeous effect. The remainder have a white ground, and the ornament and letter in gold and colour; several of these making the most delicate and pleasing pages of the book. The frontispiece is a photograph portrait of Milton, from one of the earlier engravings, and very good, with illuminated framework. The binding is also illuminated, though its material is only cloth. Mr. Stanesby has unquestionably produced a very attractive book of ornament for the drawing-room table; although his designs do not produce the effects, or imitate the character, of the middle-ages' illuminations. It is certainly an exquisite specimen of colour-printing.

But what of the literature—the "Aphorisms of the Wise and Good"? These are really what they pretend to be—maxims, pithy sayings, precepts concentrated in short sentences. Some of them are very common; and need hardly have been introduced,—such as Bacon's aphorism about the "full man" of reading; Franklin's about "rising late, to trot all day"; Selden's "old shoes" of King James; and that attributed to Sheridan, "The surest way not to fail is to determine to succeed." Others—especially those from that strange piece of pretentiousness, the Rev. C. C. Colton—are flat and poor. Colton's best, "Murmur at nothing; if our ills are irreparable, it is ungrateful; if remediless, it is vain"; is not nearly so good as the clown's saying—"What a folly it is to complain! whatever it may be, you either cannot help it, or you can; if you can't help it, what's the use of complaining? if you can, why don't ye?"

But there are very fine sayings gathered here, too—sayings that may light up the mind with a glorious truth, or give practical counsel, when the book is but taken up in idleness. Good books of aphorisms have this use; they sometimes flash thoughts on the thoughtless, that are never forgotten; or give a key-word to the thoughtful, with which they unlock the stores of wisdom for themselves. Among the wisely practical that gleam on the reader here, are a saying of Bacon's, "He that studieth revenge keepeth his own wounds green"; of Hare's, "None but a fool is 'always right'; and of Greville's, "The world 'is an excellent judge in general, but a very bad 'one in particular.'" Of the deeper thoughts that we occasionally meet, surely few are deep as Coleridge's remark on experience—"To most 'men experience is like the stern-lights of a ship, 'which illumine only the track it has passed.'" Coleridge might also have supplied a better form for the truth that is given, in its baldest commonplace, in the sentence from Mr. Kingsley, "Man was meant to be not the slave, but the 'master, of circumstances.'" There is only superstition, not devotion, selfish religiousness, not

true piety, in Sir Thomas Browne's saying, "Sleep is death's younger brother, and so like 'him, that I never dare trust him without my 'prayers';—and, by the way, it is not Browne only who has anticipated the image in the admired lines of Shelley, about "Death, and his 'brother Sleep.'" We are glad to see that the compiler has included a fair proportion of aphoristic sayings of such kind as these:—"When 'thou prayest, rather let thy heart be without 'words, than thy words without heart"—from Bunyan:—"We write our mercies in the dust, 'but our afflictions we engrave in marble"—from Bishop Hall:—and "It is one thing to take 'God and heaven for your portion, as believers 'do, and another thing to be desirous of it as a 'reserve when you can keep the world no longer"—from Baxter. And the book fittingly ends with the great and pregnant word of the infallible oracle, "Fear God, and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

It will thus be seen that this little book has real worth, besides its pleasures for the eye: and we can commend it as one of the best of illuminated gift-books, of its own pretensions and price—if, indeed, any has been previously produced at so moderate a cost.

A PAINTERS CAMP IN THE HIGHLANDS.*

If we had followed the conscientious example of that waspish gentleman, who, by his own admission, penned a first notice of a recently-published theological work after reading the preface, the observations we are about to make would have borne a totally different character. About Mr. Hamerton's preliminary remarks there is a something of self-consciousness, an air of deliberate preparation for what the author takes to be a great task, which experience leads one to interpret as the prelude to something dull, slow, and priggish. Few readers, we fancy, who are not themselves of what their detractors call the "intense" school, would expect to be baulked of an anticipated and merited "constitutional" by the attraction of the subsequent pages. Such has, nevertheless, been actually the case with us. We own it with a touch of shame. What business has anybody to be so egregiously interested in what a roving artist had for dinner, how many eggs an awfully egg-consuming companion of his ate at one meal, where he pitched his tent, and whether the water got in, and did that ruthless quadruped Turk succeed in throwing him or not after all? These are the staple topics, these and the construction of tents and boats, of Mr. Hamerton's first volume; and yet the question, did that potted meat and game come from home after all? will, in the case of many readers, divide the interest of the hour with that other question, will Prince Alfred be King of Greece or not? On other points—what were his cutlets like when they were done (he cooked them himself)? did he try a beefsteak-pudding, and did it turn out "a stew, or something of that sort," as Ruth Pinch feared hers would?—the human intellect loses itself in wandering mazes of delighted conjecture. We are not exaggerating the charm of these charming pages. They have all the interest of a very cleverly-written novel, written with infinite spirit and humour, and abounding in those touches of minute and faithful detail, which transport the reader with the sense of reality. They bring into close rooms, back upon tired brows, the breezy airs of Lancashire moors and Highland lochs, with a freshness which no recent novelist,—and of late, fishing, hunting, and shooting scenes have found illustrators enough and to spare in novels,—has succeeded in preserving. In the descriptions of scenery, which form a large portion of the first volume, the author, as it seems to us, is not so fortunate; chiefly, we imagine, because no scenery can be even suggestively, much less adequately, described, to any but those who have seen it. To anybody who has never been in Switzerland, even the little cheap coloured prints every tourist knows so well, to say nothing of photographs, give a vivid notion of glacier, and valley, and snowy peak, than any verbal description, even if it combined the accuracy of an ordnance survey with the imaginative truthfulness and depth of feeling of Coleridge's well-known poem. Mr. Hamerton describes scenery well; many of his casual phrases bring vividly and most pleasantly back to mind the changes and surprises one observes in the aspects of Highland tarns and hillsides in the course of a summer's day. Who for instance that is familiar with Loch Awe, and its neighbourhood, does not recognise the truth—every one will feel the force and beauty—of this:—"Our only chance of hitting the entrance 'to the harbour, for it was nearly dark, was to

"keep quite close to the shore on our right, that 'descended into the deep water, a tremendous 'wall of solid rock, stained and polished as if it 'had been built of black marble by an enchanter 'in the Arabian Nights. So we darted swiftly 'between the sombre portals, impelled by a 'howling gust, and in a minute afterwards 'floating in calm water, in a little quiet lake, 'our speed decreasing as the impetus died away"? But a person in the midland counties, who had never taken a cheap trip due north—between whose eye and the horizon no object taller, blacker, more frowning and stupendous, than the Gog-ma-gog Hills, say, had ever interposed,—such a person would derive from the above passage not even a definite idea, much less any special gratification. Imagination must find its materials ultimately in the facts of one's own experience. If, however, scenery could be adequately described, Mr. Hamerton would be the man to do it. It is manifest, to begin with, that he possesses the indispensable requisite of being an eminently out-of-doors man. He has, too, a quick faculty of observation, sharpened by careful training; powers of enjoyment such as are given to few; and a lively impressibility by the beauty of form, and outline, and colour. This book makes us believe him capable of excellence both as artist and poet; while to his gift and practice in the latter capacity we fancy must be due a certain careless but most felicitous command of language, which gives to his sketches the ideal grace which in describing scenery is of the essence of reality.

The persons—Malcolm especially—horses, &c., of his travels are excellently drawn; and all characteristic and interesting. In saying this, however, we wish it to be distinctly understood, that to a work like this we consider Bishop Colenso's principles of criticism fairly applicable, and that we do not believe that Malcolm ever ate twelve eggs beaten up with whisky before breakfast, or that, even if he ordered, he ever consumed the *addenda* to that dozen. For an extract we have long hesitated between a scene with the horse Turk, and

MAN THURSDAY'S EDUCATION.

"Amongst other labours that I proposed to myself during my Crusoe life on the island is one worthy of Robinson Crusoe himself, namely to teach Thursday pure English. Hitherto he has spoken a rich mixture of the Lancashire and Yorkshire dialects, an uncouth and barbarous patois, which, though interesting in a philological point of view, preserving, as it undoubtedly does, many words of Danish or Saxon origin long since lost to refined society, does not possess equivalents for those respectful forms of expression commonly used by servants in speaking to their masters. I therefore told Thursday very decidedly he must do one of two things, either learn English or leave me; and he preferred learning English. Now this Thursday was a raw shepherd lad from the Moors, ignorant of everything but pastoral life; and pastoral life is not quite so sentimental on the Yorkshire moors as it is in the foolish poems of cockney writers of the last century. Thursday, however, had a strong desire to improve himself, and, as I was willing to help him, soon fell into the position of a private pupil rather than a domestic servant; and indeed many private pupils pay dearly for instruction of a much less profitable nature. But old habits are not easily rooted out, and the gradual replacing of words peculiar to a barbarous patois by words belonging to the accepted language of all England, was a very slow and very tedious business, and one which cost me an infinity of trouble, and him innumerable blows.

"Yes, I thrashed him daily, and that severely, for week together; yet he was a voluntary victim. There was one unlucky word of his which on the Yorkshire hills stands for our words *only*, *but*, and *except*: I mean the word *naut*, which is much in vogue in that country, where the people are of so cautious a disposition that they can never say anything roundly, but must always qualify every statement with a drawback or exception. Against this word *naut* my first efforts were vigorously directed; so in exchange for it I gave Thursday the three words, *only*, *but*, and *except*,—an excellent bargain for Thursday, since in place of his single coin, whose origin was obscure, and circulation limited, he received three pieces of Royal English, current wherever that language is spoken on earth. But my unhappy pupil, notwithstanding the most hearty and laudable desire to get rid of his word, found it stick to him like a burr, whilst the new ones were never at hand when wanted, but required to be sought for, and, when found, inserted into the phrase with the utmost neatness and care, like a patch in a garment. One day, therefore, when the obnoxious word had occurred a dozen times in as many minutes, the following conversation took place between myself and my poor pupil:—

"THE AUTHOR: There seems to be only one way left for you, Thursday; and that is, that you consent to be thrashed every time you use that word.

"THURSDAY: Well, Sir, I'm sure I'd be rid of it fast enough, if I could *naut* cob it away like a stoan.

"THE AUTHOR: There, *naut* again!

"THURSDAY: Confound it! eah (*yes*), its allus (*always*) comin when it isn't wanted. Dang thee (apostrophising the word itself), dang thee, thou's noan wanted; go thee back to Widdup, and dunnot thee come back again *naut* when they send for thee.

"THE AUTHOR: There, Thursday, *naut* again.

"THURSDAY: Bless me, Sir, that word's allus comin! I think it mun (*must*) be the devil hissel as sends it; if I could *naut* be one day bout (*without*) saying it I'd be contented by th' auve (*the half*).

"THE AUTHOR: *Naut* again, Thursday.

"THURSDAY: Well, Sir, you may lick me, then, for I see I've never get no larnin *naut* its licked into me, same as a whelp."

In short the poor fellow came to me that evening, and said that he had taken the resolution to bear patiently

* *Aphorisms of the Wise and Good*. Illuminated by SAMUEL STANESBY. London: Griffith and Farran.

* *A Painter's Camp in the Highlands, and Thoughts about Art*. By PHILIP GILBERT HAMERTON. 2 vols. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

any personal chastisement I might think proper to inflict, if only I could make him learn English. He said he believed it was the only way he should ever learn, and that he had determined to submit to it as a necessity. The day after, accordingly, this system of instruction was put into practice; and I am really afraid that, when Thursday went to his hammock at night, that heroic martyr to learning scarcely found a bone that was not too sore to rest upon, so often had he been punished during the day. The next day these inflictions were, however, a little less frequent, and at the end of the week a very remarkable diminution was observable. Gradually the obnoxious word fell into disuse; and although after the commencement of this excellent course of discipline, Thursday got into a rebellious habit of running away from correction, he steeled himself into fortitude when I pointed out how this resistance to correction would defeat his own ends. The truth is, that Thursday ran much better than I did, so I could never come up with him; wherefore I preached him a little sermon, and made an appeal to his feelings of honour and duty, rebuking him in a touching manner for his want of gratitude in thus refusing what was intended solely for his benefit. But on board the boat escape was impossible, and it was there that the most wholesome lessons were given and received—given, not without sorrow, for it is at all times a sad necessity to inflict chastisement; all schoolmasters are agreed upon that—and received not without occasional murmurs of impatience, such as idle threatenings on Thursday's part to throw himself into the water, threatenings which, as I knew very well, were in no danger of being fulfilled. Then I on my part would threaten to abandon my pupil to his ancient ignorance of polite letters, rather than relax for an instant the severity of discipline. And I am happy to be able to add, to Thursday's immortal honour, that he refused not the rod, but gave his back to the smiter.

"O all little schoolboys who read this, think how happily you are situated, and what blessings you enjoy! You, my dear and fortunate young friends, have had the inestimable privilege of being thrashed from your earliest years! This poor boy, Thursday, had not your advantages."

The second volume is devoted to the most thoughtful and careful discussion of many questions connected with the fine arts. We did not at first agree with the opinion expressed in Mr. Hamerton's preface, that none are so competent to discuss a subject as those who look at it from inside, so to speak; and that none but artists had a right to speak about art. The observation might be true if it were certain that they could ever, if only for once in their lives, get outside, and see how it looks from that point of view also. The increased truthfulness to Nature and fact, which is the distinguishing feature and crowning glory of the reaction in English art, has been, not originated, but fostered into vitality, by lay taste and encouragement. Art has its vested interests as well as other things human. Those who have been trained in certain rules, and lived by the practice of them, will be apt to judge of any work whatsoever by its conformity to the rules exclusively. A well-fed Academician of sixty's first thought, in looking at Hunt's grass or Linnell's corn, would, we verily believe, be more likely to be, *Is it well got up—i.e., as Gainsborough would have painted it, and Gandish have taught me to paint it?*—than, *Is it like the very green pastures or standing stalks and sheaves my eyes have been wont to behold?* To counteract this tendency the intervention of the lay judgment is surely as desirable as it is inevitable. Afterwards, however, we found a passage in the second volume in which this doctrine of criticism receives its due limitations. In the following extract it will be seen that Mr. Hamerton distinctly recognises a more general kind of criticism, to which a layman is competent, and which his own words will explain the nature of far better than ours. Let us first remark, however, that though most of his pages are interesting enough to quote,—for there is hardly one which is not bright with the light of good sense, or of good fun, or good sport, keenly enjoyed and well remembered,—this passage is peculiarly so, because it gives us an artist's views of the critical qualifications of the author of the *Lives of Leslie and Haydon*, and the well-known *Guide to the Manchester Exhibition of Treasures of Art*:—

MR. TOM TAYLOR.

"What I have read of Mr. Taylor's criticisms is almost entirely confined to his estimates of Leslie and Haydon, published by him editorially with their biographies. He judges more as a literary man than as an artist—I mean rather *intellectually* than *technically*, and is himself aware of this, as when he says of Leslie's art:—'I am very imperfectly qualified to pronounce on the technical merits and demerits of Leslie as a painter. I venture what I say on this point subject to the correction of better-informed judges.' Mr. Taylor also seeks to relieve himself from some of the responsibility of deciding on Haydon's technical defects, by calling in the assistance of a practical artist. On the other hand, his intellectual criticism is sound and just; and his opinions seem to be very carefully considered. I should think him well qualified for that peculiar department of criticism which deals with the expression and meaning of figure pictures, rather than their merit as mere paintings. The whole of the essay on Leslie prefixed to the autobiography is well worth reading, and I should attach a very high value to the writer's opinion on any similar subject, and although Mr. Taylor is rather a representative of the most highly cultivated class *outside* of the art, than an accomplished art-critic (who ought to be as specially educated for his office as a professional painter), he has nothing in common with the traditional connoisseur. There is this very important distinction between critics like Mr. Taylor and con-

noisseurs, namely, that Mr. Taylor modestly limits his judgment to those qualities of a picture which, as a dramatist, he is quite able to comprehend; whereas your connoisseur always knows everything, and hesitates as little to pronounce upon the merits of opposite schools of art, as a Sheffield cutler on his special sort of hardware, or a Manchester manufacturer on his own particular twist.

"The criticism of artists themselves is the precise converse of Mr. Taylor's. Whilst Mr. Taylor looks for intellectual and moral qualities, painters look exclusively for technical qualities. They even care very little, I am sorry to say, for truth itself, in comparison with manual skill. Matters have not changed in this respect since the time of Sir Joshua Reynolds; and the following anecdote from the memoir of him, prefixed to his discourses, retains to this day its full value and significance:—

"A young painter, who had made several designs for the composition of the subject he was about to execute, with a view of becoming a candidate for the gold medal, brought his sketches to Sir Joshua, to have his opinion as to which was the best in point of sentiment, and the most descriptive of the story represented.

"Sir Joshua's answer was to this effect:—'You may choose whichever you please; it will turn out precisely the same; you are to recollect that your picture is to be judged of by painters only. *It will be the manual execution of the work, AND THAT ALONE, which will engross the attention of artists, and the degree of merit displayed in that part of the art is what will determine them in their election of the candidate for the prize.*'

"The consequence of this tendency in painters is that when they write criticisms for the papers, as several of them do, anonymously, those criticisms refer so exclusively to mere manual skill that the people who read them may very excusably infer that the art is nothing more than a contest of skill in handicraft. And another result of this tendency is, that pictures, false as interpretations of nature, and foolish or vulgar in sentiment, find a ready admission to the exhibitions, if only they have the required degree of cleverness in the trickery of the brush, while others full of noble feeling and refined truth are habitually rejected, if the handling is in the least unskilful or inexperienced. And therefore a clever artist is not usually the best judge of intellectual art, because he pays no attention to its intellectual side. The best critic stands half-way between Mr. Taylor and a professional painter, and sees at once both the technical and intellectual qualities of a work. Mr. Ruskin stands much nearer to this position than any other critic."

In this clear, simple, ever fresh style Mr. Hamerton discourses in the second volume on "Picture Buying, Wise and Foolish"; "The Painter in his Relation to Society"; "The Relation between Photography and Painting," and other topics. In each of these essays we had marked passages, but must close here. When we add that the book is got up in Mr. Macmillan's most royal style of type, ink, and paper, we only say that a most valuable and welcome addition to the list of Christmas gift-books is at the command of generous natures and open purses.

The Stories Little Breeches told, and the Pictures which Charles Berwick drew for them. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

If any of our juvenile readers want an evening's good fun, let them by all means persuade Pater or Matern-familias to purchase this book. A story twice told is a story twice spoilt, and, therefore, we will not tell any one what is inside the covers of this book. All we shall say is this, that such a Christmas book does not make its appearance every season. The getting-up of this volume is admirable, and the illustrations are to the life; full of rollicking good humour, yet not without their appropriate moral. By no means let your Christmas table be without "Little Breeches"; he is just the young urchin to make you merry and wise. Give him your welcome entertainment, and the Yule log will burn all the brighter. In all sobriety we commend this book to all readers who want wisdom and wit for their young folks.

(For remainder of Literature see Supplement.)

EXTRACTS FROM THE MAGAZINES.

AFTER THE BATTLE OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN.—The quiet village of Culpepper had been transformed into a Golgotha. Every house had death in it. I found grouped around me, men with broken arms, splintered legs, severed fingers, shorn ears and noses, eyes shot out, bullets in backs, bullets in thighs, bullets in breasts. They lay closely packed, upon pavement and porch—fever in their eyes, fever in their hearts. I picked my way to the second storey, and entered my own room. Two men lay on my bed, eight on my floor. The shops of tradesmen, the parlours and halls of spinners and widows, the warehouses, the churches, were crowded with wounded. They underwent amputations in the shade of side-walks and in the porches of dwellings. Nakedness and blood, wounds and suffering, made the sunlight hideous. In a house not far off lay General Geary, with a shattered arm. Close beside lay General Augur, with a wound in his side. Colonel Donnelly was dying in the hall of the hotel, and a host of others bled in neighbouring dwellings. Every hour the ambulances came wearily into town with fresh burdens. I heard, at eleven o'clock, that a cessation of hostilities had been agreed upon, to allow a burial of the dead. Procuring saddle and bridle, I took my way anew to the field, and passing the landmarks of the previous night, soon reached the *Acedama*. I was at first struck with the great number of knapsacks, haversacks, jackets, cartridge-boxes, belts, caps, knives, canteens, and muskets, thrown away in the stampede. Turning into a field I reached the site of the battery that had so alarmed us. A splintered wheel, a blackened caisson, and

eight dead horses, lay heaped together. A Federal battery had done thus much with a single shell. Resuming the road, I came at intervals upon a dead horse or a pool of blood; and at last emerging upon a corn-field, with Cedar Mountain frowning in front, I saw prone in one of the furrows the corpse of a Northern soldier: a dreadful sight! The day was insufferably hot. The dead became more numerous as I approached Cedar Creek, and in one place, where two fences met at an oblique angle, I counted eighteen bodies in the space of ten yards square. Their blue uniforms had faded to a dusky purple; the gold ornaments of officers were tarnished; the boots in almost every case removed from the feet. Numbers had fallen into the creek in the act of leaping across, and had crawled, dying, upon the bank. Behind a stone-heap I found one kneeling, his dull eye fixed at the breach of his musket: a ball through the forehead had transfixed him in the deed. Another lay with a bayonet driven through brow and eye, evidently the work of a musket ball. Those slain by shell or cannon-ball were frightfully mangled; and some few that had died by bayonet thrusts preserved even in disfigurement the agony of the pang. Ambulances were busily engaged in removing the wounded, some of whom were so weak, or so shattered in nerve, that they could not speak. Fatigue-parties were burying the bodies. Only a few favourite officers were allowed separate graves, the mass being thrown into trenches by dozens and scores, and covered with a single foot of clay. In the edges of the wood, where the Federals charged, the antagonists lay close together, and I came upon a secluded place where a whole company had stacked muskets, and afterwards run away. A few log-houses close to the field were bored and broken by balls; and in one I found an entire family that had fled to the cellar during the battle, and remained there eighteen hours in cold and terror. The tops of the corn were cut off for acres as by a great knife, and an old-fashioned Virginia plough that I came upon, close to a spring, had been splintered by a solid shot.—*Cornhill Magazine*.

EARLY RISING.—Early rising is absolutely injurious if it unfits us for vigorous work through the day. It is impossible to lay down a uniform law as to the quantity, either of food or of sleep, which each individual requires. What is excess to one would be too little for another. Some men can work best with eight hours' sleep, and some can do equally well with seven. John Wesley is often quoted to prove that six hours' sleep are sufficient for a man; but the reply is obvious that though Wesley did not spend more than six hours of the twenty-four in bed, he yet always took a good long nap in the course of the day, and it by no means follows that what sufficed for him should suffice for others. It is better, as all experience proves, to work vigorously with the faculties in a state of alacrity and alertness, for a shorter period, than to continue longer at work half asleep, dull, drowsy, and yawning. It may, however, be conceded to early rising associations, supposing such to exist, that more persons err on the side of excess than of defect. The danger and the temptation are to sleep too much rather than too little. For one person who would be benefited by sleeping an hour longer there are twenty who might, without injury, and with positive advantage every way, sleep an hour less.—*The Christian Spectator*.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—The additions to the collection are the "Perigord," Hobbema, Ward's "Bull," a picture by Membling, and another by William of Cologne, one of the ancient *meisters*. The "Bull" is at Kensington; the two last-named are waiting for their frames, but the Hobbema is in its place. The cost of the picture, long known in the Perigord collection, is, we believe, 1,500 guineas. It was the property of Mr. Napier, the engineer, of Glasgow, who is said to have given 1,600*l.* for it, and was afterwards in the possession of Mr. Phillips, of Bond-street. It is of moderate size, and in very good condition. The subject is a piece of rural roadside scenery, the principal point being a group of trees rising in the centre, beyond which, at a little distance, is a cottage, with a glimpse of open fields on the right, the rest of the view being almost immediately intercepted by trees. It is painted with a full brush, and with that informal and unhesitating touch acquired from out-door painting; the forms are much less heavy, and the colour more mellow, than those of *Ruysdael*. The sky is cold, feeble, and woolly, inasmuch that it does not seem to have been painted by the same hand as the trees and the roadway. The reflection of this kind of art is found in the works of the painters of our school earlier than in those of any other country; and with us it has been cultivated with great success. When we remember the state of landscape-painting during the first quarter of the seventeenth century, we shall arrive at a just estimation of the difficulty overcome by Mindert Hobbema. We do not know what has been given for Ward's "Bull," but the price of the picture when at the Crystal Palace was 1,000 guineas. Mr. Ward painted it to compete with Paul Potter's "Bull" at the Hague, which will not bear comparison with it, the former having had a beautiful model, and having perfectly understood its best points. The pictures by Memling and William of Cologne we shall notice as soon as they are placed.—*The Art Journal*.

LITERATURE AND ART.

Messrs. Smith and Elder have added to their half-crown series of standard works Holme Lee's well-known novel, "Against Wind and Tide."

Mr. Charles Dickens is in Paris, and is, it is said,

organizing in that city a series of readings from his own works, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the Lancashire operatives.

Mr. Redgrave has reported to the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition that, owing to the precautions which were taken, the pictures, with hardly an exception, are uninjured.

The medal of the Royal Academy for drawing the Figure from Life, was last week awarded to Mr. Thomas Henry Thomas, of Pontypool, son of the Rev. Dr. Thomas, president of the Baptist College. This being the only medal offered at the annual distribution, all the students qualified for competition went in for it. The successful competitor last year won the second prize of the Academy for drawings in the antique.

At the last meeting of the Council of the Art Union of London, Professor Westmacott, R.A., in the chair, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Godwin, F.R.S., that a premium of 600*l.* should be offered, under conditions that will be advertised, for a statue or group in marble. The competition by plaster models will be open to artists of all nations. Mr. Antrobus, Mr. Lewis Pocock, Mr. Hayward, Mr. W. Herbert, Mr. Butterworth, Dr. Dickson, and others, took part in the proceedings.

Gleanings.

The Aurora Borealis was visible in London between eight and nine o'clock on Sunday evening.

Mr. Mayall has received orders for 100,000 photographs of the Princess Alexandra.

Gold lace is sometimes employed to recompense valour, but more frequently to decorate footmen.

The French, who eat more frogs than all the rest of the world, are the least given to croaking.

In the Federal States it has been decided that a ten-cent stamp must be affixed to marriage certificates.

The Empress Eugenie and the ladies of her court are all daily making their appearance in plaid taffetas, poplins, and velvets.—*The Queen.*

A movement is on foot in Edinburgh to establish a "Home for the Lost and Starving Dogs," similar to that in London.

The Commissioners of Stephen's-green, Dublin, have refused to allow it to be converted into an Albert-park, and to be opened to the public.

It has been stated that the Marquis of Hertford has intimated his intention of leaving his splendid collections of pictures to the nation.

A dock labourer named Burke has died at the London Hospital from the effects of drinking a large quantity of whisky above proof.

During the present war in America the Austrian Government has sold 80,000 muskets to the North-erners.

Thomas Cathrae, a stocking-maker, has murdered his mother at Warrenhall, near Dumfries. In a drunken fit he kicked her so much that she died from the injuries.

The ladies are providing themselves with whistles to call the police in case of danger. The "Ladies' Anti-garrotter Whistle" is the latest fancy article in the shops!

The visible eclipses in 1863 will be a partial eclipse of the sun in the afternoon of May 17, a total eclipse of the moon on June 1, and a partial eclipse of the moon on Nov. 24.

A wag, upon visiting a medical museum, was shown some dwarfs and other specimens of mortality all preserved in alcohol. "Well," said he, "I never thought the dead could be in such spirits."

"Here, this is a bad shilling," said a shopkeeper to a lad who had proffered a counterfeit coin for a tenpenny loaf. "Oh, indeed," replied the young rogue as he hurried off, "then I'll not trouble you for the change."

They mean to raise tall students out in Wisconsin. A local paper says:—"It has been resolved by the board of education to erect a building large enough to accommodate five hundred students three storeys high."

Giuglini, the tenor singer, and paramour of Mrs. Windham, was well hissed at a concert at Aberdeen, on Monday night week. It is gratifying to find that there are persons who have the moral courage to give him the reception his conduct has deserved.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says that Mr. Anderson, of Woolwich Arsenal, has discovered a process of making steel as tough as wrought iron, without losing its hardness, by heating the metal and plunging it in oil, after which the steel can be bent, but scarcely broken.

Two of the sisters of the woman M'Lachlan, of Glasgow murder notoriety, are about to emigrate to Australia. One of them has been dismissed from service for no other reason, apparently, than her close relationship to the alleged murderess. Another sister is reported to have become insane.

The Dewsbury Board of Guardians has passed a remarkable resolution to the effect that all vagrants applying for admission to the workhouse be first washed "all over" with cold water. It seems that vagrancy is greatly increased in Dewsbury, and to check it the cold-water system is about to be tried in default of a better method.

A Mr. Stokes, of Trenton, lately sued Judge Nar, of the *True American*, for damages, for having put his marriage among the deaths. Although the editor offered to make it all right by putting Stokes's death among the marriages, the indignant Benedict would not accept the *amende honorable*. Damages, six cents.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

SOWTER.—Nov. 30, at Tiptree Parsonage, Kelvedon, the wife of the Rev. Thos. Sowter, of a daughter.
BLANDFORD.—Dec. 5, at 4, Telford-terrace, Herne Bay, the wife of the Rev. Thomas Blandford, of a daughter.
PILKINGTON.—Dec. 11, at Sutton Grange, St. Helen's, Lancashire, the wife of William Pilkington, jun., Esq., of a son.
CLARKE.—Dec. 14, at Ernest-villa, Sydenham-road, Bristol, Mrs. Edward G. Clarke, of a daughter.
LIVENS.—Dec. 16, at Mann's-field House, Thornton-heath, Croydon, the wife of Mr. George Livens, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GOULD-COOKSON.—Dec. 3, at the Independent Chapel, Briery-hill, by the Rev. E. H. Davies, Mr. John Gould, Wall-heath, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Emanuel Cookson, Wollaston.
FARNELL-MANN.—Dec. 8, at Sion Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. J. P. Chown, Mr. George Farnell to Miss Sarah Mann, both of Horton.
EDWARDS-WILLIAMS.—Dec. 9, at Cambridge-heath Congregational Church, by the Rev. Edwin Davies, Mr. Henry Edwards, to Miss Sarah Goss Williams.
MILMINE-STEELE.—Dec. 9, at the Presbyterian Church, Turlough, by the Rev. A. Brown, Mr. John Milmine, Castlebar, to Catherine Richardson, eldest daughter of Mr. Joseph Steele, of Halifax.
MYERS-BAINES.—Dec. 10, at the Independent Chapel, Allerton, near Bradford, by the Rev. J. G. Miall, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Calvert, Mr. Joseph Myers, of Croft House, Horton, to Julia, eldest daughter of Thomas Baines, Esq., of Stock House, near Bingley.
SMITH-CORBIN.—Dec. 10, at Leith, Edinburgh, by the Rev. J. Fairburn, Mr. George Smith, of London, to Margaret, third daughter of the late Captain T. P. Corbin.
MELLAND-MIDDLETON.—Dec. 11, at Paradise Chapel, Darlington, Frederick Melland, Esq., surgeon, Park View, Rusholme, near Manchester, to Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of Michael Middleton, Esq., of Darlington.
BAILY-NOKES.—Dec. 11, at Percy Chapel, Bath, by the Rev. R. Brindley, Mr. S. Baily, of Bath, to Elizabeth, relict of the late Mr. George Nokes.
CAMPBELL-BUCHANAN.—Dec. 12, at 51, Lauriston-place, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Professor Rainy, William Rose Campbell, Esq., of Ballechyle, Argyllshire, and Major H.M.'s Indian army, to Jane Morrison, younger daughter of James Buchanan, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Divinity in the New College, Edinburgh.

DEATHS.

PALMER.—Dec. 1, at Attleboro', David Palmer, aged eighty-eight, for sixty-four years a member of the Independent Church assembling in the Old Meeting, Bedford.
WALKER.—Dec. 5, aged sixty-six years, at his residence, 54, Rusholme-road, Manchester, Mr. Henry Walker. He was, for thirty-five years, a teacher and conductor in the London-road District Sunday-schools.
HOLLOWAY.—Dec. 11, at Stanley-terrace, Notting-hill, F. P. Holloway, Esq., aged fifty.
DUNN.—Dec. 11, at his house, No. 7, Alford-place, Aberdeen, Mr. David Dunn, late drysalter in that city, in the seventy-third year of his age, highly respected.
ROTHERY.—Dec. 11, at Lansdowne-road, Dalston, Mr. Joseph Alexander Rothery, aged thirty-eight.
MEER.—Dec. 13, aged seventy-two, James Meer, Esq., of Middlethorpe Lodge, near York, senior alderman and magistrate of that city, a magistrate for the North and East Ridings of the county, and also a director of the Great Northern Railway. He served the office of Lord Mayor of York in the years 1837, 1849, and 1851.
SMITH.—Dec. 15, at 7, Selkirk-parade, Cheltenham, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian resignation, the Rev. James Smith, late minister of Cambray Chapel.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 10.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£28,589,455	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,634,900
		Gold Bullion 13,939,455
		Silver Bullion —
	£28,589,455	£28,589,455

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,533,000	Government Securities £11,081,517
Reserve .. 3,093,524	Other Securities .. 19,269,655
Public Deposits .. 8,490,519	Notes .. 9,238,975
Other Deposits .. 13,579,489	Gold & Silver Coin 888,508
Seven Day and other Bills .. 765,128	
	£40,481,655

Dec. 11, 1862.

W. MILLER, Deputy Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—INSTANT RELIEF.—Sores which are daily extending, ulcers which are hourly deepening, may be arrested in their torturing progress, and induced to take a healthy action, by applying this healing Ointment, and taking these purifying Pills. It soothes all distempers of and extracts all morbid humours from the skin. Old ulcers of the legs, inflammation caused by varicose veins, and cramps of the lower limbs can sensibly be eased, and shortly cured, by Holloway's never-failing Ointment, which represses excessive, and stimulates sluggish vascular and nervous action. In constitutions breaking down under piles, fistulas, and other similarly painful maladies, a few applications of this cooling Ointment will give comfort, and a persistence in its use will effect a cure.—[Advertisement.]

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 15.

The return shows large arrivals of foreign wheat and oats. The supply of English wheat at this morning's market was very small, the best runs of which were taken at about last Monday's prices; in foreign only a retail business was done, prices being about as this day week. Fine malting barley was unaltered in value, but all grinding descriptions were 1*s.* per cheaper. Peas and beans each very dull sale, and rather lower. The continued heavy supplies of oats, particularly from Sweden, are more than the trade can well take off, and the demand again to-day was very slow, at a decline of fully 1*s.* per qr on the rates of last week.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7*d.* to 8*d.*; household ditto, 5*d.* to 7*d.*

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Dec. 15.

Notwithstanding that the supply of beasts, even for the great day, was very large, there was a steady, though not to say active, demand for the best Scots, shorthorns, Herefords,

Devons, and crosses, at full prices. Otherwise the demand was in a sluggish state, at previous rates. A few very superior animals realised 5*s.* 3*d.* to 5*s.* 4*d.* per 8*lbs.*; but the general top figure for beef was 4*s.* 6*d.* per 8*lbs.*. For the time of year we were fairly supplied with sheep, the general condition of which was good. On the whole the mutton trade was steady, at prices equal to Monday last. The best Downes realised 5*s.* 6*d.* per 8*lbs.*. There were a few lambs on show, but they commanded very little attention. Calves, though in short supply, were a slow inquiry, at last week's prices. The top figure was 4*s.* 6*d.* per 8*lbs.*. Pigs were a dull inquiry, at drooping currencies. The receipts from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire comprised 8,000 shorthorns, &c.; from Norfolk, 1,500 Scots, &c.; from other parts of England, including Devonshire, 2,000 various breeds; from Scotland, 800 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 600 oxen and heifers. The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 4,496 head.

Per 8*lbs.* to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	4	3	6	Prime Southdowns	5	6	5	8
Second quality	3	8	4	0	Lambs	0	0	0	0
Prime large oxen	4	2	4	8	Lge. coarse calves	3	6	4	3
Prime Scots, &c.	4	10	5	0	Prime small	4	4	4	6
Coarse inf. sheep	3	8	4	0	Large hogs	3	4	3	10
Second quality	4	2	4	8	Neat sm. porkers	4	0	4	4
Pr. coarse woolled	4	10	5	4					

Snooking calves, 10*s.* to 21*s.*. Quarter-old store pigs, 30*s.* to 29*s.* each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 15.

Full average supplies of meat were on sale at these markets to-day. Good and prime beef and mutton sold steadily, at very full prices; but inferior qualities were in slow request, on former terms. Veal changed hands slowly, at our quotations. Pork was very dull, and 4*d.* per 8*lbs.* lower than on Monday last.

Per 8*lbs.* by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	3	6	3	10	Small pork	3	10	4	4
Middling ditto	3	0	3	4	Inf. mutton	3	4	3	6
Prime large do.	3	6	3	10	Middling ditto	3	8	4	2
Do. small do.	4	0	4	2	Prime ditto	4	4	4	6
Large pork	3	0	3	8	Veal	3	6	4	4

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Dec. 16.

TEA.—There has been but a small amount of business transacted in this market to-day, and prices are without material alteration.

SUGAR.—The business transacted in this market has been to a small extent since last week's report, and prices have shown a slight downward tendency. In the refined market there has been but a dull business doing, at about last week's prices.

COFFEE.—The market has experienced but a limited inquiry for colonial descriptions, without any change of importance to notice in values.

RICE.—An average amount of business has been done in this market for good descriptions of East India, and late quotations were maintained.

SALTPETRE.—The amount of business recorded in this market has been to a moderate extent, and prices were well maintained for refined descriptions.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 15.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 5,585 firkins butter, and 2,662 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 22,868 casks butter, and 104 bales and 795 boxes of bacon. The demand for Irish butter was but to a limited extent during the week, except in the finest mild brands, which were more inquired for, and sales effected at 10*s.* to 10*s.* on board, of favourite brands of Carlow and Clonmells. Dutch declined to 11*s.*, owing to the quality being good; other descriptions of foreign was without change in prices. The bacon market ruled very flat, and a further decline of 2*s.* per cwt was submitted to; but the market assumed a steadier appearance at the close of the week, and some sales of best Waterford were made at 50*s.* on board.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 15.—Large supplies of home-grown potatoes have been on sale at these markets since our last report, and a fair quantity has come to hand from foreign ports. For all qualities the trade is in a sluggish state, and a further decline has taken place. The currencies are as follows:—Yorkshire Regents 80*s.* to 120*s.*, Yorkshire Flukes 130*s.* to 140*s.*, Yorkshire Rocks 80*s.* to 90*s.*, Kent and Essex Regents 80*s.* to 110*s.*, Kent Rocks 75*s.* to 90*s.*, Scotch Regents 85*s.* to 100*s.*, Scotch Rocks 80*s.* to 90*s.*, French 70*s.* to 80*s.* per ton.

WOOL, Monday, Dec. 15.—Since our last report there has been no change of importance in the quotations of any kind of wool. A few parcels have been taken for export to France and Belgium; but the demand on the part of our manufacturers—who are now well in stock—has slightly fallen off. The public sales of colonial wool have closed at an average advance in the prices, compared with the previous series, of 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb.

SEEDS, Monday, Dec. 15.—The seed market continues quiet, but, as usual at this period of the year, only a small business for seeds of all descriptions is passing. Fine qualities of red cloverseed are inquired for, and sell at full prices. White seeds do not meet attention. Trefoil is inquired for, and is firmer in value.

OIL, Monday, Dec. 15.—Linseed oil moves off steadily, a 38*s.* 6*d.* to 38*s.* 6*d.* per cwt on the spot. In rape the amount of business transacted has been on a moderate scale, at about late rates. In olive, cocoa-nut, palm, and fish oils, no change has taken place, and the demand is restricted to actual wants. French turpentine has moved off steadily during the past week, and is quoted at 87*s.* per cwt. Resin and tar have further declined in value.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, Dec. 13.—We have to report an active demand for flax, and prices have ruled steady. Hemp, however, is in limited demand, and clean old Russian is worth 38*s.* 10*s.* to 39*s.* per ton. Jute has sold to a moderate extent, at, in some instances, a slight advance in the quotations. Coir goods are in fair average request, and full rates are obtained.

COALS, Monday, Dec. 15.—Market firm at the rates of last day. Hetton's 18*s.* 6*d.*, South Hetton's 18*s.* 6*d.*, Tees 18*s.*, Lambton's 18*s.*, Hartlepool 17*s.* 3*d.*, Russell Hetton 17*s.* 3*d.*, Belmont 16*s.* 3*d.*, Hedley's 15*s.* 9*d.*, Wylam 17*s.*, Hartleys 15*s.* 6*d.*, Tanfield 14*s.* 3*d.*, Turnstall 16*s.* 6*d.*, Hetton Lyons 16*s.* 3*d.*. Fresh arrivals, 115; left from last day, 88.—Total, 153.

TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 15.—Since our last report there has been an improved feeling in the tallow trade, and to-day the market is steady. St. Petersburg Y.C. is quoted at 45*s.* 6*d.* per cwt on the spot, and 46*s.* for January to March delivery. Rough fat is selling at 2*s.* 4*d.* per 8*lbs.*

Advertisements.

TO PRINTERS.—WANTED, an experienced, trustworthy person, who thoroughly understands both NEWS and JOBBING, to manage a country NEWS and JOBBING OFFICE.

Address, stating terms and references, "Press," Messrs. Penny and Son, 16, Cannon-street West, London.

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THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Rev. Thomas Adkin, Glossop. Rev. Andrew Reed, Preston.
Rev. A. Clark, Stockport. Rev. J. G. Rogers, Ashton.
Rev. W. H. Davison, Bolton. Mr. W. Armitage, Manchester.
Rev. James Gwyther, Manchester. Mr. R. Kelsall, Rochdale.
Rev. J. B. Lister, Blackburn. C. Potter, Esq., Manchester.
TREASURER—Mr. Henry Lee, Mosley-street, Manchester.
SECRETARIES.
Rev. R. M. Davies, Oldham. Rev. William Roaf, Wigan.

We are requested by the Secretaries to make the following acknowledgments of sums received during the week ending Dec. 15, 1862:—

	£	s.	d.
Rogies, Sacramental Collection, per A. Howarth, Esq., 4th.	10	0	0
Middlewich, Rev. W. B. Macwilliam	0	10	6
Salters, Third Sacramental Collection	21	0	0
Liverpool, Great George-street Chapel, Rev. E. Mellor	50	0	0
Do., R. A., per do	25	0	0
Whitchurch, Doddington Congregational Chapel	8	5	6
Lambeth, York-road Chapel, sacramental collection, per Rev. R. Robinson	10	0	0
Free, Independent Chapel, per Mr. Sturgess	0	7	2
Lewisham, High-road Congregational Church, two sacramental collections, per Rev. Geo. Martin	17	2	10
Haleworth, per Mr. W. H. Aldred	1	19	0
Rev. J. B. Paton	1	0	0
Sheffield, Wicker Church	2	14	8
St. Ives, Rev. Thomas Lloyd, 7th contribution	10	5	8
Do., Union Church	1	11	6
Matlock Bath	2	2	0
Darby, Regent-street	1	0	0
Blackpool	1	18	6
Charles Potter, Esq.	10	0	0
Totton, Rev. John Sherratt, 4th weekly contribution	1	0	0
High Easter, Chelmsford, Rev. R. Barnard	2	10	0
Colchester, Rev. W. F. Clarkson	1	15	0
Thurfield, per Rev. D. Davies	1	10	0
Surbiton, Rev. A. Mackennal, 4th monthly	10	0	0
Ilfracombe Independent Chapel, Rev. George Waterman	0	12	0
Barkway, Independent Chapel, Rev. J. Hamer	0	9	6
Throop, Christ Church, Rev. Samuel Knell	11	0	0
Brynawr, Rev. T. F. Nathan, 3rd contribution	1	1	6
Okeham, Rev. J. C. Fairfax, sacramental collection	0	15	6
Wellington Sunday-school, 5th collection, 11. 5a.; Wilby Branch School, 6a.; Doddington School, 4a. 6d., per Rev. T. Curtis	1	15	6
East Cowes, Rev. John Yonge	2	5	1
Queen-street Chapel, Sheffield, Rev. J. P. Gledstone, weekly	6	11	8
Crewe, per John Eaton	0	13	4
Uxbridge, Rev. R. T. Clarke	40	19	0
Bristol, The Tabernacle, Rev. J. Glendinning, 2nd contribution	30	0	0
Stroud, Old Town Chapel	1	7	3
Bridge-street Chapel, Rev. H. J. Roper, 3rd monthly	30	0	0
Redland-park Congregational Church, 3rd sacramental	6	10	0
Brunswick Chapel, Rev. G. Hartland, 2nd contribution	17	8	7
Huddersfield, Ramsden-street Chapel, 74.; in new materials, 36l. 4s., Rev. R. Skinner	109	4	0
Waterborough, Rev. Alexander Murray	14	3	1
London, Borecourt Chapel, Rev. A. Raleigh	15	2	4
Sutton-on-Trent, per Misses Harston and Fisher	1	15	0
Bristol, Highbury Chapel, Rev. D. Thomas, 6th monthly	56	11	2
London, Union Chapel, Islington, Rev. H. Allon	176	15	8
Manchester, Grosvenor-street Chapel, W. Armitage, Esq.	8	0	0
Middleford, Tabernacle Sunday-school	0	6	0
Scarborough, Rev. Robert Balmorie	9	9	0
Heckmondwike, Upper Chapel Schools	8	0	0
Kirby Stephen	4	16	6
Stone, Rev. H. Lawrence	2	15	0
London, Kensington Chapel, Rev. John Stoughton, 2nd donation	25	0	0
Broadwinor, Rev. Stephen Bate	0	7	4
Mugby, Leicester, Mr. J. B. Haddon	4	0	0
Hurstbourne Tarrant, per Mr. James Newman	4	10	0
Kingsland, Rev. T. Aveling, weekly	15	0	0
Barrow, near Ulverston, Rev. James Hamer	2	15	5
Repton, Derbyshire	7	0	0
High Wycombe, Rev. John Hayden	6	4	8
Itchen, Southampton, Rev. A. T. Skinner, B.A.	5	0	0
Broughton, Rev. W. Muncaster	7	8	0
Leek, Congregational Church, per J. Brough, Esq.	12	0	0
Henry Lee, Esq., Manchester	20	0	0
Uppingham, per Rev. J. Green	17	10	0
Staplehurst Congregational Chapel, collection	4	6	0
Leeds, Kent, ditto	2	2	9
Tiverton, R. J. Stubbury, sacrl. collection	5	0	0
Liverpool, Berkeley-street Chapel, per Mr. G. Holywell	5	0	0
Brownhill, near Walsall, Sunday-school, per Mr. Birch	1	0	0
Attercliffe, Rev. J. Calvert	6	2	0
Birmingham, Bordesley-street, Rev. S. Carter	2	17	0
Laford, Devon, Rev. J. Parsons	7	0	0
Brynwran, Rev. W. Morris	2	0	0
Davenham, near Northwich, Rev. C. H. Parratt	1	19	9
Linfield, British and Sunday-schools, per Mr. Wills	1	2	6
Pangbourne Sunday-schools, weekly offering	0	4	0
Byworth, Rev. R. Gould	1	0	0
Tewkesbury, per Mr. R. Gilliat	0	4	6
Goole, Rev. B. Gladstone	15	10	0
Newark, Sunday-school collection, Rev. T. R. Attenborough	1	0	8
Wrexham, Chesterfield-school, additional	0	5	0
St. Colomb, Independent Chapel, Rev. G. Oke	10	0	0
Ashbourne, Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, Mr. Peach	12	8	9
Wildon, Rev. G. Bullock	1	10	0
Collected at Corby	0	13	6
Islington-street, Galloway	0	7	0
Do., by box on counter	0	9	8
Swanage, Rev. T. Seaville, 2nd contribution	1	1	4
Do., Day and Sabbath Schools	0	10	4
Uffculme, Rev. J. S. Spillbury	1	11	8
New College Students, per Mr. Morris	1	12	6
Glansfield, per Rev. W. Pearce, A. Friend	0	2	6
Do., part of sacramental collection	0	5	0
Do., Little Polly	0	17	6
Walpole Chapel, Rev. H. J. Haas	1	5	0
Tidbury, Independent Chapel, per Mr. Newton	8	0	0
	4	0	0

DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE—Continued.

Bishops Auckland, per Mr. Angus	1	18	0
Sittingbourne, Children's Service, per Rev. R. Thomas	3	14	2
Plymouth, Rev. C. B. Symes	10	8	2
Canterbury, Sunday-school	1	0	0
Stoken Church, Rev. C. Hyall	1	9	6
Uxbridge, Sunday-school, Rev. D. Thomas	1	2	0
Do., Zoar, by Rev. Dyfn.	1	1	0
Senham, Kent, Rev. T. B. Attenbury	21	0	0
Merthyr Tydvil, Rev. J. Davies, school, 17s.	12	7	0
Lewis, Sunday-school, per Mr. Bedford	2	0	0
Brampton, Rev. C. Wilkins	1	18	0
Wrexham, Chester-street School	4	0	0
London, New College Students, 2nd weekly	1	13	0
Malpass, Mr. T. G. Wycherley	1	10	0
Winalow, Rev. J. L. French	3	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Rev. A. Reed	21	10	0
London, Lower Clapton, Rev. F. Soden	21	11	3
Barnett, Rev. S. Davies, weekly	10	0	0
Southwold, Rev. W. Hopkins	2	17	7
Do., Sunday-schools	0	7	7
Collected at Wallingwick	0	8	8
Do., by J. Arthur	0	7	4

Jersey, R. A. Pearce 14 5 0
Blakeney, Sunday-school (Mr. White's, 15s. 4d.) 1 19 4
Framlingham, Rev. S. A. Browning 10 0 0
Luffborough, Rev. J. Mason 9 6 6
Tunbridge Wells, J. French, Esq. 10 0 0
Crouddall, Rev. T. Gulsworthy 10 12 0
Highgate, Rev. J. Viney 10 0 0
Sums under 11. 2 16 7
Packages of Clothing received:—Rev. A. Jones, Portsea; Harold; Rev. C. Griffiths, Weston, 1 bale; Mrs. Stanly, Shipston, 1 bale and 1 box; Rev. B. B. Williams, Chichester, 1 chest and 3 sacks; Rev. S. Jones, Longton, 1 bale; Friends at Okehampton, 1 box; Mr. W. Casson, 1 hamper; Rev. George Waterman, 1 bale; Mrs. Baker, Birmingham, 1 parcel; Friends at Malmesbury, 1 box; Rev. S. Bate, 1 bale; Mr. G. H. Williams, London, 1 bale; Rev. T. Davies, Hungerford, 1 parcel; Anonymous, 3 bales, 1 parcel, 1 chest, for which the Committee tender their hearty thanks to the Contributors.

All Communications must be addressed, Rev. R. M. Davies, Oldham.

THE BAPTIST UNION and the LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.

The following is the list of Contributions forwarded during the past week to the Baptist Union Fund for the Relief of the Distress in Lancashire:—

	£	s.	d.
A Working Man's Family	0	5	6
Upper Norwood Chapel, weekly collection	13	18	6
Andover, Baptist Chapel, by Mr. Young	16	2	4
Wallop, ditto	4	7	7
Boutport-street, Barnstable, by Mr. Porter	17	0	6
Peterchurch, Hereford, by Rev. D. Sinclair	3	12	9
Grantown, Inverness, by Rev. W. Grant	7	14	6
Miss Harvey's Pupils, Weymouth	3	13	0
Miss C. Hasall, Clapham	3	0	0
Brookhurst, Hants, by Rev. R. Blake	5	0	0
Ditto, Sunday-school	0	7	0
Blaenavon, by Rev. D. Morgan	3	2	0
Mr. W. Jull, Staplehurst	2	0	0
Boro' Green Sunday-school, by the Rev. W. Frith, second contribution	0	16	0
Editor of the Christian World, sixth donation	15	0	0
Old King-street, Bristol, by Mr. Williams	10	0	0
Blaenavon, by Rev. J. Rees	2	12	0
T. Thomas, Esq., by do.	1	0	0
Bedale, by Mr. Douthwaite	2	6	0
Mr. G. Phillips, Helford	0	7	0
W. Blesley, Esq.	2	10	0
Caerwys and Rhydfelyn, by Rev. J. Nicholas	3	9	4
G. E.	5	0	0
Wills Kition, Esq.	6	0	0
S. W.	0	5	0
Mr. Blackmore	1	1	0
Bow Baptist Chapel Sunday-school, monthly collection	2	8	6
Salter's Hall, second contribution	7	19	6
G. W. J., a household's collection	0	10	0
Blackwater, by Rev. S. Sale	1	6	0
Ravensthorpe, by Rev. J. P. Haddy, collected by Miss Soden	1	8	0
Dunstable, West-street Sunday-school, by Miss Gutteridge	1	9	9

Contributions will be thankfully received at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; and at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co.'s, Lombard-street.

Post-office Orders should be made payable at the General Post-office, to the Rev. James H. Millard (Secretary), and Banker's Cheques to George Lowe, Esq. (Treasurer).

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

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Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage, 1s. 8d.

Price of an Un-bilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage, 1s. 10d. Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

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The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support, in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARIOUS VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP

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A "Free Church Minister's Wife" says, "The process is simple, whitens the clothes, and in no way injures them, but indeed saves them, by avoiding the hard prolonged rubbing of the old method. About one-half of soap at least is saved, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labour."

HARPER TWELVETREES' INDIGO

THUMB BLUE, LAUNDRY BALL BLUE, SOLUBLE POWDER BLUE and LIQUID INDIGO BLUE, impart to the finest fabrics a most brilliant colour and will be found preferable to any other Blues now made for beautifying all kinds of linen.

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STARCH is recommended for its economical and stiffening properties, and the high finish it imparts. It is extensively used by nearly all the principal Dressers, Bleachers, Dyers, and Launderesses in the kingdom. Used also by her Majesty's Lace Dresser, and the Launderess to Buckingham Palace. Mr. Michael Hamal, Shirt Finisher, Levere Lodge, Neilston, of Glasgow, writes:—"I have used Briggs' Starch nearly two years, and I find its quality superior to all other starches in the kingdom."

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PASTRY POWDER, for making bread without yeast, puddings without eggs, and pastry with half the usual quantity of butter, is the strongest, purest, and best that can be made. It involves scarcely any trouble, and renders the bread far more wholesome and nutritious than when made by yeast; and a much larger quantity is obtained from the same weight of flour. It makes most delicious puddings and pies, rich tea-cakes, currant cakes, biscuits, buns, pie crusts, Norfolk dumplings, and pancakes at little more than half-price. The lightness, delicacy, and sweetness are surprising; and the size will be considerably increased. Sold in 1d. packets, and in 6d. and 1s. canisters.

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BAGO BLACK LEAD, for polishing grates, stoves, and every description of ironwork, produces an instantaneous magic lustre, and imparts a metallic coating. Sold in 1d., 2d., 4d., and 8d. packets, and in 3d., 6d., and 1s. canisters.

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FURNITURE CREAM cleans, brightens, preserves, and polishes brilliantly every description of polished furniture, pianofortes, wax cloths, papier mache and japanned or bronzed goods. Sold in 6d. and 1s. bottles.

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LIQUID ANNAITO, for colouring cheese and butter, produces a beautiful golden tint, and is most convenient for colouring the whole dairy of cheese or butter alike. It immediately incorporates with the cream, and is warranted to be a pure liquid of the Vegetable Annatto, and perfectly innocuous. This highly-prized article is also extensively used for dyeing silk ribbons, handkerchiefs, cotton, linen, wood, leather, and many other articles. Sold in bottles at 6d., 1s., 1s. 9d., 2s. 9d., and 5s., by all Grocers and Druggists in the cheese-making and butter-making districts, and may be had of all the London Wholesale Houses.

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Mr. Day, stationer, Wincanton, writes:—"A customer of mine bought a Penny Packet of your Poisoned Wheat, and laid it in his cheese loft, where he found twenty dead mice two days afterwards. He also placed a portion on the floor of his dwelling-house, and the next morning he found eight mice dead, and four the following morning."

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N.B.—For a description of C. CADBY'S Pianoforte and Harmonium Manufactories, see page 241 of the Illustrated Times, published 9th August, 1862.

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COALS.—Best Sunderland, 25s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 24s.; best Silketone, 21s.; Clay Cross, 20s.; Coke, per chaldron, 15s.
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Sold by all Vendors of Medicine, price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d. per box.

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Table Knives, per doz.	14 0	16 0	19 0	23 0	25 0	29 0	33 0
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